



Socialist Worker

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NURSES SPEAK OUT AGAINST **TORIES' HEALTH LIES**

EXPOSED

Why 7-day working plan will put NHS on life support

by TOMÁŠ TENGY-EVANS

THE TORIES are trying to spin their plan to ram through “seven day working” in the NHS as a way to improve patient care.

In reality it will make the NHS crisis worse and hit patients hard.

The Tories want to smash workers’ unsocial hours pay, slash budgets and make the NHS more attractive for privatising firms.

Health worker Glen Harrison told Socialist Worker, “When I started working in the NHS we

complained about staffing levels—but we had no idea.

“We used to have enough staff to take mental health patients to do community activity, which is important.

“You just can’t do that anymore.”

Rocketing workloads are already driving workers out of the NHS. Glen said, “We have such a high staff turnover, meaning there’s no consistency of care.

“People don’t have the same rapport or familiarity with patients and can miss details in notes—there’s less confidence in staff.”

Glen said the latest Tory plan will “just make it worse. Workloads will rocket and there’ll be a mass exodus of staff.

“We do the best that we can with inadequate resources, but we are up against the wall.”

>>Full story **Page 3**



MIGRANTS

Calais crisis caused by clampdown

A **TEENAGE** boy’s body was found on the roof of a Eurotunnel train at the Channel Tunnel terminal in Folkestone, Kent, on Friday of last week.

Ten people are known to have died in less than two months trying to get from Calais into Britain—up from 16 known deaths in 2014.

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NATIONAL GALLERY



Gallery workers vote to start an all-out strike

WORKERS AT the National Gallery have voted overwhelmingly to go on an all-out strike.

The members of the PCS union are set to begin their action on 17 August.

They have been striking since January against bosses’ plans to privatise 400 out of 600 jobs.

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TURKEY

New assault on Kurdish group after Isis attack

THE TURKISH air force has launched a series of air strikes in Syria.

Until last week the Turkish military had taken no part in fighting against Isis.

The same day it began a crackdown on Kurdish fighters in the PKK.

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THE THINGS THEY SAY

'The actions of a few damage our reputation'

Disgraced Lord Sewel announcing new powers to expel Lords who misbehave earlier this month

'They sort of look innocent but, you know, they're whores.'

Sewel on Asian women

'The party is in a terrible place.'

Labour MP Simon Danczuk

'His comments indicate that, as leader, he would emulate Lenin by seizing the 'commanding heights' of the economy'

The Daily Mail newspaper somewhat overstates Jeremy Corbyn's Labour leadership bid

'He's the one with the beard, by the way'

Daily Mail columnist Peter McKay's odd swipe at Corbyn

'I think a big conversation needs to happen about this'

David Cameron on aggressive seagulls



Peer's expense-fuelled farce and Nick Clegg's new job

DISGRACED PEER Lord Sewel will be free to claim up to £300 a day in parliamentary allowances while under investigation for getting caught in a Sun sting.

He was paid £120,000 a year, made up of his salary for his part-time work chairing committees in the Lords (£84,525) and his allowance of £36,000 for maintaining a home in London.

He complained that he is struggling.

When one of the women working as a prostitute asked if his £200 allowance pays for his lunch, he replied, "It's not lunch luvvie darling, it's paying for this".

Lord Sewel was chair of the House of Lords Standards Committee. It is supposed to ensure no peer brings the House into disrepute and it will decide if he should be



JOHN BERCOW

expelled.

Now not all politicians share the same interests as the noble Lord.

And George Osborne has yet to comment on a politician being photographed with a woman working as a prostitute and white powder being on the table.

However even the clean living are doing ok.

Commons Speaker John Bercow has been accused of "obscene waste" after billing taxpayers £172 for a chauffeur-driven trip of 1,200 yards.

The round trip to plush Carlton House Terrace, which is a 10-minute walk from the Commons, could have been done in a taxi for £15.

With an impressive lack of self awareness he also spent £367 taking a car to Luton to deliver a speech about

how to get over the expenses scandal.

Poor Nick Clegg has seen his £134,565 deputy prime minister's salary plummet to a measly £67,000 now he is merely a lowly MP.

So he hired Leading Authorities, a Washington-based agent, to manage his after-dinner speaking engagements.

Boasting of his "internationalist approach to world affairs", Clegg says he is available to give speeches "in five European languages".

"For UK audiences, Clegg shares his experiences about the future of politics and the direction of the UK, specifically relating to the EU."

"For international groups, he explores how current UK politics affects international relations."

A snip at £35,000 a speech.

A REVELATORY survey has shown how children from richer families do better than poorer ones, even if they aren't very clever. The Social Mobility and Child Poverty Commission compared rich children who displayed "low academic ability" at age five with poor ones with high ability. The rich children were 35 percent more likely to be in a well-paid job by the age of 42 than the poor ones.



Much richer than you

FANCY A trip to London but don't know where to stay? Look no further. The original Scotland Yard police headquarters is going to be transformed into a five-star hotel. The building was the Metropolitan Police headquarters from 1829 to 1890. But now you will be able to stay in it for a mere £10,000 a night.

Johnson smarting at not getting cannons

AS TROUBLEMAKER noted last week, London mayor Boris Johnson has bought a load of water cannons that he isn't allowed to use.

He now has an interesting task in figuring out what to do with them.

Meanwhile he still seems to be smarting from being bossed about by home secretary Theresa May.

Writing in the Sun on Sunday newspaper Johnson said, "It is absolute nonsense to say this would somehow change the notion of 'policing by consent'."

"The police

already have tasers and clubs and any number of lethal guns. Does anyone 'consent' to be tasered, for heaven's sake?"

Quite.

AND WHAT might the cops use their water cannons on if they could use them? Gardeners, obviously.

One man raking his garden was enough to draw a police helicopter, an armed response unit, a dog unit and three patrol cars to a garden in Dorset last week.



Lords vote ermine and they vote often

WHEN NOT snorting white powder members of the House of Lords have the odd election.

Democracy rears its ugly head when a hereditary peer departs.

With Lord Luke, a young of 82, deciding to retire, a vacancy has arisen. Nominations closed last week and the favourite is said to be the Duke of Wellington.

He previously sought election to Westminster in 1974, standing as a Tory in Islington North, now represented by Jeremy Corbyn. The

voters weren't tempted by an Etonian who goes by the name of the Marquess of Douro.

The other candidates' statements are enlightening. The Earl of Limerick is into kitesurfing, Lord Rowallan is an Olympic showjumping judge and Lord Swansea speaks Chinese. Then there's Lord Amptill, who seems to think that he is the Scarlet Pimpernel.

"Watch out for Monsieur Chauvelin," he writes. Lord Windlesham's pledged to show up for votes. Bless.



The Duke of Wellington

Top Gear show is cleared to still be racist

TOP GEAR was cleared of breaching broadcasting rules for using the word "pikey" in a show.

Ex-host Jeremy Clarkson was seen holding a placard with the words Pikey's Peak while Richard Hammond drove a car up a mountain.

It wasn't racist because it was part of a "running gag". The BBC admitted the word could be "a derogatory term". So did regulator Ofcom.

But apparently, "On balance there was sufficient context in the way the word was used to minimise offence."

So that's ok then.



£500,000

amount Boris Johnson is set to grab for a biography of Shakespeare

£400,000

salary as London mayor

£275,000

salary for column in the Daily Telegraph

Sexist comic is still sexist

POOR DANIEL O'Reilly. The "comedian" is behind the disgusting Dapper Laughs character, who likes to make jokes about rape. But it turns out that O'Reilly is the real victim.

In an interview with the Sunday Times Magazine he complained that people not liking his "jokes" had harmed his career. He whined that his critics are the problem for not educating him about the fact that rape isn't funny.

He moaned, "Instead of attacking me, why not educate me? Instead I'm told to fuck off." According to O'Reilly if a woman cries "she's just playing hard to get". And "it's only sexual harassment if she's more attractive than you".

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Tories lie about NHS staff and plunder vital services

by TOMÁŠ TENGELY-EVANS

THE TORIES' plans to ram through "seven day working" in the NHS will hit health workers and patients hard.

Ministers are ramping up the propaganda war to justify an attack on pay and conditions with talk of lazy workers and lack of access for patients.

Sakina is a nurse at Guy's and St Thomas' Hospital NHS Trust in south London. She told Socialist Worker, "We've always had a 24-hour, seven day a week NHS. I work night and day shifts, and on the weekend."

The government's attempt to make staff work longer for less will affect patients too. The staffing crisis in the NHS and rocketing workloads are already hitting patient care.

Sakina said, "Health workers are already being driven out of the NHS, and we're heavily reliant on agency and new staff. The quality of the service is not as good as it was."

"You're constantly rushed. You're compromising the patients' care and lives. If you're tired, looking after lots of patients and having to help agency and new staff, then your concentration will go."

"This opens the door to errors. They're not paper errors in the NHS—we're dealing with people's lives."

Fractured

Tory justice minister Michael Gove was supposedly left out on a limb recently when he couldn't get an X-ray for a fractured foot on a Sunday.

But he went to a minor injuries unit, which don't have 24-hour radiology because of underfunding. Another hospital just a mile away did.

The Tories now want surgery and outpatient clinics to run on weekends. Sakina said this was "unrealistic" as bosses "won't get the staff."



HEALTH WORKERS in central London on strike in September last year

PICTURE: GUY SMALLMAN

The Tories want to scrap the unsocial hours pay that's essential to many workers. The pay review body instead recommended pushing the start back from 8pm to 10pm and possibly scrapping Saturday pay.

But the attack is still coming—and it isn't just about pay. The Tories hope lower wages will make the NHS more attractive for privatising firms (see below). Their attacks are a disaster for patients.

East Kent Hospitals NHS Trust said last week that chemotherapy patients in Ashford will be forced to get their

treatment in mobile buses in the car park. The hospital's own chemo unit was closed due to a staff shortage.

Staffing is critical for patient care. Sakina said, "Patients are brought to us sedated and it's our job to wake them up. They're disorientated and don't know where they are—many don't even realise they've had the operation."

"This is the moment when you need to sit down with them."

"You can't just say, 'We're keeping an eye on you because of your heart' and then just walk away. Patients

aren't medical people. Every bleep on the machine worried one of my patients last week—they thought that they were dying."

"When I sat down and explained their situation to them, they said they wished someone had done it before."

"With the 'seven day' changes it will only get worse—there will be no humanity in the NHS."

What's your story?
Email with your ideas
reports@socialistworker.co.uk

Slasher firms want to asset-strip NHS

OUTSOURCING GIANT Capita has announced plans to slash more than 1,000 jobs when it takes on an NHS contract worth £1 billion.

The contract covers support and admin services, such as managing clinical records, across the NHS in England.

Nearly 80 percent of workers in the NHS's Primary Care Support Services will lose their jobs and only two out of 30 offices will remain open.

The first six sites the firm plans to close down—Chelmsford, Yeovil, Derby, Mansfield, Leicester and Lincoln—could be shut by December.

The Department of Health was expected to sign off on the deal

FIGURE IT OUT

80%
of workers in NHS Primary Care Support Services face losing their jobs under new bosses Capita

40%
of funding to the service is to be "saved" in the privatisation

36%
rise in Capita's pre-tax profits last year after it grabbed more contracts

later this week. This is still just the beginning of privatisation.

And the Tories want to prise the NHS open further during the next five years.

They claim it will bring the NHS 40 percent "savings" from day one of the contract.

In reality, it shows up the real cost of privatisation as firms with no interests in healthcare try to make a quick profit.

Capita's privatisation empire already includes the London congestion charge and British army bases.

These companies will dump contracts if they aren't making enough profits from them—leaving workers and patients to suffer.

IN BRIEF

Sanctions to be reviewed

THE GOVERNMENT'S own Social Security Advisory Committee called for a review of benefit sanctions last week.

It said there is no firm evidence that sanctions help people find jobs.

Prevent claims toddler victim

A THREE year old child from east London has been put in a "de-radicalisation" programme as part of the government's Islamophobic Prevent strategy.

The child was referred to the programme as part of a "wider family group".

New inquiry into spy cops

A PUBLIC inquiry into undercover policing was launched on Tuesday of this week.

The inquiry was ordered after it was revealed that a police spy infiltrated the justice campaign of murdered black teenager Stephen Lawrence.

Cuts hit black people harder

BLACK AND ethnic minority people are more likely to be made poorer at a faster rate than white people due to Tory austerity, a study has found.

A Runnymede Trust report shows that some four million black and ethnic minority people could be left with less income.

The worst affected group is British Muslims.

ON THE WEB

Top five hits this week on socialistworker.co.uk

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- 2 **Victory in Glasgow—striking homelessness caseworkers make council bosses back down**
- 3 **Let's build a mass snub for the Tories in Manchester**
- 4 **Greece's royal coup—lessons of the July days**
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Calais crisis caused by clampdown on migrants

Politicians scapegoat migrants in Calais, but it's border controls that are to blame, writes Ken Olende

A TEENAGE boy's body was found on the roof of a Eurotunnel train at the Channel Tunnel terminal in Folkestone, Kent, on Friday of last week.

It is thought that he was electrocuted by overhead wires in France and his body only discovered when the train arrived in England.

His death was one of ten in the past two months (see box).

Rail inspectors found the body of a Sudanese refugee in a freight train on Tuesday 7 July.

A 23 year old woman from Eritrea in east Africa has died since—run down while trying to board a lorry.

Neither of them has been identified.

The mainstream media is focusing on holiday makers facing delays—but the real story isn't about late trains or gridlocked roads.

Desperate

The tailbacks of lorries are down to the drivers' strike in Calais, not migrants (see box).

But desperate migrants are taking any opportunity to escape to Britain.

Up to 3,000 migrants have to face the grim reality of living in the "new jungle" camp near the French port town.

The majority have fled countries devastated by Western imperialism,

BACK STORY

Ten people have died in the last two months trying to cross the English Channel from Calais

● Up to 3,000 migrants are living in grim conditions in the 'new jungle' camp outside Calais

● The deaths of those who escape show the brutal reality of immigration controls

● But politicians and the media are backing even harsher ones

● Anti-racist activists in Kent have organised a protest to show solidarity with migrants

poverty and crisis—including Afghanistan, Syria, Sudan and Eritrea.

European governments and the freight bosses want to dehumanise the migrants.

They don't want anyone to question what drives migrants to make their perilous journey.

But even Eurotunnel spokesperson John Keefe told a journalist, "The desperation of these people is such that they don't see the risk as significant."

"They have already crossed the Sahara, they have already come across the Mediterranean."

MANY MIGRANTS in Calais are fleeing countries devastated by Western imperialism and poverty

Each night hundreds of migrants try to rush the Eurotunnel Le Shuttle terminal, where cars and lorries board freight trains to go through the tunnel.

They are trying to use the terminal because it is safer than trying to board moving vehicles or get to the tunnel through fences.

Unaware

They hide themselves on trains or among freight, hoping to claim asylum in Britain.

Migrants often look for police to hand themselves over to, unaware that they will be arrested and

often detained.

But Keefe was arguing migrants' desperation means more rigorous ways of stopping them should be brought in.

Eurotunnel bosses are demanding the British and French governments pay £6.7 million in compensation for increased security and lost revenue.

Yet both their income and profits have actually gone up.

They're also piling on pressure to make sure trains get through the tunnel. Some rail workers have suggested this could compromise safety.

Migrants trying to get across the English Channel didn't cause

this problem.

It was created by the British and French governments' attempts to restrict them.

The ten migrant deaths highlight the reality of immigration controls.

Politicians and the media want to use it to whip up more racism against migrants.

But anti-racist activists in Kent are already organising a protest against the backlash (see below).

On other pages...

Islamophobia—Cameron's industry of fear >> **Pages 10&11**

FIGURE IT OUT

10 number of known deaths of migrants trying to cross the English Channel in less than two months

16 number of known deaths of migrants trying to cross the English Channel in the whole of 2014

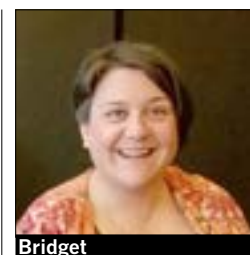
50 the estimated number of migrants, who are fleeing war and crisis, arriving daily in Calais

Activists organise in Kent

KENT ANTI-RACISTS have organised a migrant solidarity protest in Folkestone.

Bridget Chapman from Folkestone United told Socialist Worker, "I know a lot of people who are fed up with the damaging media coverage about migrants."

"When that young boy died last week a lot of people found it heart-breaking."



Bridget

They decided to show that many people in Kent oppose the scapegoating of migrants.

She said, "We set up Folkestone United to support diversity—recently that's meant challenging Ukip."

"We hope to get all sorts of people on the protest like we did during the election campaign."

Sat 1 August, 11am
UK Terminal
Folkestone, CT18 8XX.
Go to Facebook page
Stand with the Calais Migrants

French police try to stop migrants getting near boarding points

Seafarers blockade channel links

STRIKING SEAFARERS in France forced ferry company DFDS to divert its Dover to Calais services to Dunkirk on Monday of this week.

The 600 strikers blockaded the port of Calais in dinghies. And last Tuesday they burned tyres on the road as part of a two-hour blockade of the Channel Tunnel.

Police in Kent have been forced to use miles of motorway as an emergency lorry park.

Strikers ended the blockade after the French government called for a sign of good faith, but have stepped up the action again after being offered nothing concrete.

They're also occupying two boats, which Eurotunnel bosses want to sell to DFDS. Much of their crews would lose their jobs.

Workers also accuse Eurotunnel of withholding money for wages.

Bosses in Britain have responded to the strike the same way they have responded to the refugee crisis—with calls for a clampdown.

Freight Transport Association officials called for making Calais a "strike free zone".

This follows Road Haulage Association chief Richard Barnett's call last month for the military to keep migrants away from lorries.

Yet Britain's Competition and Markets Authority triggered the dispute by demanding Eurotunnel sell off its ferry subsidiary MyFerryLink.

The ruling was later overturned.

Tougher security drives migrants into danger

TEN PEOPLE are known to have died in less than two months trying to get from Calais into Britain—up from 16 known deaths during 2014.

Not all their identities are known.

Houmed Moussa, a 17 year old Eritrean, drowned on Sunday 19 July.

Mohamad Achrat, a 23 year old Pakistani, died from his injuries three days after an accident in the Channel Tunnel on Monday 13 July.

A Sudanese refugee was also killed in the Tunnel on Monday 13 July.

A young Eritrean woman, 22 weeks pregnant, was sent into premature labour after she fell from a lorry on Saturday 4 July.

Her baby, Samir, died around an

hour after he was born.

Workers haven't been able to follow up the woman's health because migrants have to use false names.

Zebiba, a 23 year old Eritrean woman, was run over on the motorway on the night of Monday 29 June.

Getnet, an Ethiopian man aged 32, died of a fractured skull after falling from a freight wagon on Friday 26 June.

Another Ethiopian was killed on the motorway in the early hours of Monday 1 June.

There may be others whose bodies have yet to be found, or who survived the crossing only to die of their injuries in Britain.

It took months to identify Syrian refugees Mouaz Al-Bakhli and Shadi Omar Kataf, found dead in the sea off the Netherlands and Norway this year.

They tried to swim the Channel last October.



Tory minister Theresa May has pushed for tougher security to keep migrants out

Socialist Worker WHAT WE THINK

GET RID OF THE LORDS— THEN GET RID OF THE REST

DISGRACED peer Baron John Buttifant Sewel's job used to include defending the unelected House of Lords. He would write indignant complaints about "wearing caricatures" whenever it was criticised.

But he did his bit to keep those "caricatures" alive last week. Sewel was filmed exploiting women who work as prostitutes and appearing to take a drug working class people would be jailed for using.

The house is stuffed with aristocrats, bishops and the handpicked favourites of prime ministers long gone. Though to Labour's shame, some of the only real parliamentary opposition to the Tories comes from the Lords' benches.

The Lords is the only unelected house of parliament in Europe. Now some of Britain's biggest newspapers are calling for it to go.

Perhaps while we're at it we could chuck out the scrounging Windsors of Buckingham Palace.

As well as topping up her loot with generous annual subsidies, the queen gets a veto on many government decisions. Prince Charles's letters show that the royals aren't afraid to stick their

own considerable noses in. But the royal prerogative also gives governments a weapon.

Tony Blair used an obscure royal "order in council" in 2004 to bypass parliament and the High Court to stop the Chagos Islanders returning to a home that had been turned into a US airbase.

Journalist John Pilger said at the time, "The Queen rubber-stamps what in many cases politicians know they can't get away with democratically. Dictators do this, but without the quaint ritual."

The ermine robes, jewelled crown and silly terminology can seem out of place in a society that's supposed to be about democracy and rule of law. But

The Lords is the only unelected house of parliament in Europe

that society is built on violent cops, corporate media and bullying bosses—and they fit it like a glove.

Our rulers are just as keen to deny us a say as they ever were, and just as happy to break their own laws. And they do it for the most modern of reasons.

This was brought home in Lancashire last week, as fracking firm Cuadrilla said it planned to appeal against the county council's decision not to let it resume its dangerous drilling.

Ordinary people had protested, local politicians had voted—yet the government looks set to help bosses overturn their decision as part of its drive for fracking.

The same has happened on a much bigger scale in Greece. People voted in an election, and a referendum, to break with austerity.

But the European Union, European Central Bank and International Monetary Fund used naked economic blackmail to deny them that chance.

That's the only way to run a society that concentrates the wealth produced by the many in the hands of the few.

The Lords needs to go. But to make our society democratic, we can't stop there.

DON'T BASK IN THE SUN

THE SUN has had a good couple of weeks. First there was the home movie of the royals giving Nazi salutes. Now there's a video of unexplained origin of a Lord cavorting—as they like to put it—with white powder and women who work as prostitutes.

The phone hacking scandal saw sections of the establishment—cops, politicians and the Murdoch empire—fall out.

After the Leveson Inquiry failed to do anything at all, the pieces are

being slowly put back together.

A strange rehabilitation is being attempted. The Sun is trying to use the Human Rights Act it claims to hate to take cops to court for accessing journalists' phone records.

At one level the key task is to sell papers. But there is another game too. There are plenty of scandals to investigate—some of them in the same apartment block as Lord Sewel (see page 6).

But the Sun chooses which politician with cocaine is

important and which is not. It ignores or attacks any scandal that actually threatens the status quo.

The smears of the Liverpool fans over Hillsborough aren't in the past. The Sun re-employed the then-editor as a poisonous columnist.

For every scoop on a Lord or a celeb there is an attack on a union or an immigrant. The Sun often claims to stand up for ordinary people. In reality it hates them.

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ANALYSIS

ALEX CALLINICOS



Obama leads a new scramble for Africa

“HERE COMES Africa,” the Financial Times newspaper breathlessly proclaimed. Barack Obama seems to agree, visiting the continent more than any other US president.

But the US focus on Africa started under his predecessor. George W Bush introduced a high-profile programme to combat Aids. Under his presidency the Pentagon established a unified combat command—Africom—to deal with sub-Saharan Africa. This reflects the spreading inkblot represented by disastrous US wars in the Islamic world.

Kenya and Ethiopia, the two countries Obama is visiting, both happen to have sent troops into Somalia to fight the Islamist Al-Shabaab movement.

This caused serious terrorist blowback in Kenya.

But Obama has economic as well as strategic motivations in mind. He’s taken hundreds of business executives with him. Bush introduced a trade pact, the African Growth and Opportunity Act, which has just been extended for another ten years. Celebrating the renewal last week, Obama said Africa has the “potential to be the next centre of global economic growth”.

Certainly sub-Saharan Africa experienced a significant increase in trade and investment inflows during the 2000s. More than anything else this reflected the booming Chinese economy’s appetite for African energy and raw materials.

China is now Africa’s biggest trading partner. Total trade rose from £6.45 billion in 2000 to £129 billion in 2013.

These changes need, however, to be kept in perspective. Foreign direct investment (FDI) inflows into the whole of Africa, including Egypt and the Maghreb, totalled £35 billion in 2014. That compares to £300 billion to developing Asia, £186 billion to Europe, £103 billion to Latin America, and £94 billion to North America.

Moreover, the major investors in Africa are still from Western states such as the US and the old colonial powers, Britain and France. The biggest newer players are India and South Africa, whose companies and supermarket chains have penetrated deep into the rest of Africa since the end of apartheid. Chinese FDI lags behind.

Dominate

A fascinating study by Ching Kwan Lee in the New Left Review journal compares the three mining companies that dominate the Zambian Copperbelt.

Two are subsidiaries of “Western” companies—Glencore and Vedanta. They are based respectively in Switzerland and India, but both well integrated in the London-centered global mining industry.

The third is state-owned enterprise China Nonferrous Metal Mining Company (CNMC).

The Western mineowners are quick to lay off workers and have pushed through casualisation. By contrast, CNMC offers its miners long-term contracts, but at lower wages. Lee speculated that the difference reflects “a state-capital logic of accumulation, in contrast to the profit-maximising logic of private capital” in the case of Glencore and Vedanta.

He said this “encompassing accumulation gives CNMC an important role in China’s economic diplomacy, currently focused on Asia and Africa, with emphasis on the resource commodities that are in short supply in the PRC [People’s Republic of China]: oil, copper, aluminium and iron.

“The Chinese Academy of Social Sciences, a key government think-tank, has identified resource security as the top priority for China–Africa economic strategy over the next ten years.”

This suggests that China as well as the US is in Africa for strategic as well economic reasons.

Overall, Chinese firms operate in Africa in an economic and political environment that’s still very much dominated by Western imperialism. But relationships are shifting.

After a euphoric phase that ended with the 2008 financial crash, Western multinationals have cut back their investments in Africa. Lee’s analysis underlines that Chinese companies are there for the long term.

US policy-makers are no doubt worrying about this.

But whoever’s on top, Africa’s primary interest for outside powers remains what it has been since colonial times—the natural resources that can be extracted from it.

Despite the hype, Africa remains on the bottom rung of the global division of labour.

FORMER TORY MP Peter Morrison (left) with Margaret Thatcher

New files show how spooks tried to cover up child abuse

by SIMON BASKETTER

THE MI5 security service pushed for a cover-up of child abuse allegations against Peter Morrison, according to Whitehall files.

Morrison was a Tory MP and aide to then prime minister Margaret Thatcher.

A key paper from November 1986 shows Sir Antony Duff, then director general of MI5, writing to cabinet secretary Robert Armstrong, who is now a Lord.

It referred to inquiries into an MP said to have “a penchant for small boys”.

The MI5 chief added, “At the present stage the risks of political embarrassment to the Government is rather greater than the security danger”.

The Duff note was disclosed to Peter Wanless, head of the NSPCC charity, and Richard Whittam QC, who published a review last year.

It was supposed to bring to light all the apparently missing documents over the abuse scandals.

However a series of documents have now emerged that were previously thought to be lost or destroyed.

Wanless and Whittam said Sir Antony’s words are a “striking example” of how “the risk to children is not considered at all”.

One of Morrison’s victims

said earlier this year, “He’d leave me alone for a little bit, and then he’d come at me again. Before long, he had my trousers off.

“At one point we stopped for petrol, and I thought about running out of the car, but I realised the doors had some sort of child lock and I couldn’t get out.

“I was so frightened. It was the most horrendous experience of my life.”

Morrison took the boy to a house, probably Elm Guest house in Richmond, in 1982. He raped the boy. The boy



Sir Maurice Oldfield

escaped and reported the attack to the police.

A year later the police returned his clothes and said a man had been convicted and sentenced to two years in prison. It was a lie.

Westminster

The papers include documents and correspondence relating to senior Westminster figures.

They include Morrison, former home secretary Leon Brittan and Sir William van Straubenzee, former Tory Northern Ireland minister. All three are dead.

The documents have not been disclosed but a description of them has. In them is a file referring to the security risks posed by the “unnatural sexual proclivities” of diplomat and deputy director of MI6 Sir Peter Hayman.

Other papers relate to former head of MI5 and MI6 Sir Maurice Oldfield and his alleged connection to the Kincora boys’ home in Northern Ireland (see box).

Abuse victims say Oldfield visited Kincora.

The newly discovered files will be passed to the Goddard public inquiry into institutional abuse. The files were released on the day parliament closed for the summer.

Kincora probe blocked

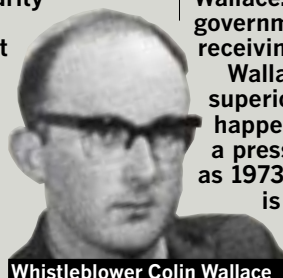
THREE WORKERS at the Kincora boys’ home were convicted in 1981 of sexually abusing children there in the 1970s.

Yet British establishment figures, including senior politicians, were also involved.

The security services knew about the abuse but did nothing to stop it. The papers included a file about

former Northern Ireland minister Sir William Van Straubenzee, which “contained references to the Kincora boys’ home”.

Another group of papers contain allegations made by former military intelligence officer Colin Wallace. Successive governments denied receiving the allegations. Wallace told his superiors what was happening and put out a press release as early as 1973. Yet Kincora is excluded from the child abuse public inquiry.



Whistleblower Colin Wallace



Got a story?

Email ideas to reports@socialistworker.co.uk

Outrage as anti-choice protesters close clinic

An abortion clinic's forced closure shows activists must be ready to take on the bigots, says Judith Orr

NEWS THAT anti-abortion protests forced an abortion clinic in London to close has been met by outrage from pro-choice campaigners.

The clinic, which has not been named yet, was said to have faced "unmanageable protests".

Kerry Abel, chair of the national Abortion Rights (AR) campaign, said, "It's unacceptable that perfectly legal medical services are being shut down because of a few bullies outside."

"But what's worse is that the government is standing by and letting it happen."

Launched

AR has launched a campaign and open letter to Tory health secretary Jeremy Hunt (see below).

It's demanding that women are ensured "provision for access to safe, legal abortions for women regardless of where they live."

"These services are delivered directly by, or on behalf of, the NHS."

Abigail Fitzgibbon from the British Pregnancy Advisory Service (Bpas), said "The threat the activists pose isn't just that they harass women and staff outside clinics."

"They are actually trying to close clinics down or prevent them from opening in the first place."

She said the clinic that closed

was not Bpas-run.

Anti-abortionist bigots have tried to set up pickets outside a number of clinics in Britain in recent years.

They hold up giant pictures of what they claim are aborted foetuses. Some try to film women and health workers as they enter.

Group

Abortion Rights executive member and Cardiff campaigner Helen O'Sullivan told Socialist Worker how the local group combatted pickets outside Wales's only clinic.

She said, "We held weekday silent protests and noisy rallies when the clinic was closed."

"Now the anti-abortion pickets don't turn up."

"We always worked with the clinic and women going in thanked us for being there."

Pro-choice campaigners ran a similar successful campaign in Stratford in East London.

The anti-abortion lobby will try every tactic to limit abortion rights. They have been more confident under a Tory government.

Pro-choice campaigners will have to be vigilant and oppose them wherever they mobilise.

To sign the open letter go to tinyurl.com/njpfyht
See abortionrights.org.uk for more information

Extend the right to choose

A WOMAN in Northern Ireland last week lost a legal challenge to her daughter being denied access to free NHS abortion services in Britain.

The 1967 Abortion Act was never extended to Northern Ireland.

It shows that anti-abortionist pickets are not the only hurdle that women who need an abortion have to overcome.

In another case in Northern Ireland, a woman is being

prosecuted for obtaining abortion pills for her teenage daughter over the internet.

More than 200 women have written an open letter in response, declaring they have done the same to expose the injustice of the law.

Recent research in Scotland found that women who need a late term abortion are forced to travel to England. This is because the Scottish NHS rarely carries out abortions over 18-20 weeks.



PROTESTING AGAINST Tory attempts to limit access to abortion in February

PICTURE: GUY SMALLMAN

HILLSBOROUGH INQUESTS

Cop—"I was one of the officers who pushed people back into the pen"

by SADIE ROBINSON

FRESH INQUESTS into the 1989 Hillsborough football disaster are continuing to hear evidence about fans' last movements.

The court heard evidence relating to 38 year old victim Inger Shah and 21 year old victim Marian McCabe last week.

Fan Stephen Oates went to the match with Inger and Marian. They went into pen 3.

In a recent statement he said, "While I was being crushed in pen three I could see fans desperately trying to escape the crush by trying to climb over the front fence onto the track."

"I saw police officers initially physically pushing fans back down into the pen."

The court was read the evidence of fan Martin Malone, who was also in pen 3. He said, "The screaming

continued, but the police, unaware what was going on, took no notice."

"From that point onwards I became aware that several of the people around me, including the lady in front of me, had died."

A photograph showed Martin standing directly behind Marian.

The court was also read the evidence of PC Martin Russell Cooper. He described seeing Marian "pressed up against the fence". He said, "At this stage this woman appeared to be alive."

Cooper later described pulling people out of the pen through the gate. He said he looked again at Marian and "it was obvious that she was dead".

Fan Gillian Cole described seeing Marian from the pitch after she escaped the crush.

She said, "Her face was turning blue. As I watched, I saw her eyes roll around and then just close."

Former police officer Adrian Taylor said he

thought Inger and Marian were dead in the pen.

He told the court, "I was one of the officers who pushed people back into the pen."

Fan Peter McGrath carried a woman thought to be Marian on an advertising hoarding across the pitch to the gym.

He said, "As we went through the door, a man in a dark uniform wearing a flat hat looked at me and said, 'dead or alive?'."

"And the bloke who had hold of her upper body—I think he was a policeman—said 'dead'."

"So we put her down in the makeshift area where other dead people with sheets covering them were."

"I did not see anyone check her for signs of life. That's why it surprised me that when we got to the gymnasium the police officer said 'dead'."

Former police officer Steven Maddock said he saw Inger Shah at the front of pen 3 and thought he saw her die in front of him.

The inquests will not sit during August.



Justice for the 96 T-shirt



New assault on Kurdish group after Isis attack

The Turkish state has renewed its war against Kurdish separatists, reports Ken Olende

THE TURKISH air force launched strikes against Syria in the past week, but it has also resumed bombing Kurdish separatists.

The government joined in with international cries of outrage last week at the suicide attack on Suruc in eastern Turkey, presumed to be by Isis, which killed 32 people.

The PKK leads the Kurdish nationalist movement in Turkey.

It accuses Recep Tayyip Erdogan's Turkish government of working with Isis to defeat Kurdish separatists.

In the east Turkey borders Syria, Iraq and Iran—all of which have significant Kurdish populations.

Until last week the Turkish military had taken no part in fighting against Isis.

The same day it began a crack-down on "terrorists".

This led to mass arrests of people suspected of links to both Isis and the PKK.

It followed this with two nights of airstrikes on PKK targets in northern Iraq.

So far it has refrained from bombing the PKK-related PYD. It is the main force on the ground in Syria, which is fighting Isis forces with US air support.

Danger

Turkish socialist Ron Margulies told Socialist Worker, "The real danger here is that the Turkish government's actions drag Turkey and the Kurds into a new war."

"First, it is risking getting completely involved in the war in Syria."

"Second, for two years there has been effective peace with the PKK and it is sabotaging the peace process."

So far the PKK has not said how it will respond to the attacks.

The Turkish government has always seen the Kurdish movement as a greater threat than Isis.

For a long time it has done little to stop recruits to Isis crossing the long border with Syria.

The PKK claims that the Turkish government is directly colluding

BACK STORY

Kurds in eastern Turkey want national liberation—and face repression by the Turkish state

● The US has been funding Kurdish groups to fight Isis in Syria

● But the US also relies on Turkey as an ally

● It wants to use the Kurds as a proxy army, but will never allow them independence

● Now the Turkish government is using Isis attacks as an excuse to crush Kurdish resistance groups

with Isis to destroy the Kurdish movement.

Turkey announced that the US and Britain can use aircraft based at Incirlik airbase in eastern Turkey for airstrikes against targets in Syria.

Linked

The US still classifies the PKK a terrorist organisation, while it is in practice working with the linked PYD against Isis in Syria.

Erdogan's foreign policy is totally isolated in Nato.

It looks like his call for a meeting with Nato on Tuesday of this week may be an attempt to break that.

Erdogan spoke to US president Barack Obama last week, before the Turkish change of line.

Ron said, "I suspect that Turkey has come to an agreement with the US by which in return for Turkey supporting the US in its fight against Isis, the US turns a blind eye to attacks on the Kurds."

US spokesperson Brett McGurk was quick to deny this.

He said, "There is no connection between these air strikes against PKK and recent understandings to intensify US/Turkey cooperation against Isis".



On other pages...

Palestinian author Ghada Karmi on her memoir Return >> Page 15

MOURNERS GATHER round a Kurdish separatist killed by Turkish forces last week

GREECE

Syriza government blackmails rebel MPs as institutions return to Athens

OFFICIALS FROM Greece's hated "Troika" of creditors returned to Athens on Tuesday of this week, six months after the new left government kicked them out.

The European Union (EU), European Central Bank (ECB) and International Monetary Fund (IMF) agreed on 13 July to a third £60 billion "bailout" of Greece's debt.

In return the Greek government signed up to a bruising new austerity package—with hikes, £36 billion of privatisations, and a seemingly endless list of "reforms".

They are extorting more measures in "technical" talks to "finalise" the bailout. They want to stamp out the early retirement that softened the blow from job cuts.

MPs voted for a second set of measures on Wednesday of last week, as workers protested outside.

Troika officials' demands for access to government ministries—and posh hotels—saw talks delayed by three days.

But MPs were given just hours to read a 900-page bill before

voting it into law.

A tightening of mortgage law could lead to banks seizing people's homes—though prime minister Alexis Tsipras denied this. But for the Troika it's not enough.

The ECB has eased its stranglehold on Greek banks, releasing £900 million in emergency funding. But the clock is ticking again, with the ECB demanding £2.1 billion in debt repayments by 20 August.

Repayments

A "bridging loan" has already been given almost entirely back to the Troika in debt repayments.

The deal has divided Tsipras' radical left Syriza party. The party's Left Platform faction and other influential MPs oppose it. Some call for leaving the eurozone and defaulting on the debt.

But Tsipras has blackmailed the rebels, accusing them of lining up with German finance minister Wolfgang Schäuble who wants to kick Greece out of the euro.

Tsipras also argued it was better to have Syriza implement the deal than a government of the right.

The measures passed with the support of right wing opposition MPs. Some MPs who voted no to the first round of measures voted yes this time—including former finance minister Yannis Varoufakis. Rebels' determination not to split the party has held back their ability to oppose the deal.

Like Tsipras and Varoufakis up against the Troika, they have the better programme but no plan to make it happen if the other side don't agree.

Left Platform leader Panagiotis Lafazanis told journalists after last week's vote, "I have no statement to make. Everything went fine. Syriza is united with its differences." A possible election in autumn could see many rebels replaced with Tsipras loyalists.

But the workers whose struggles brought down the old government are furious. Dockers and hospital workers are already in dispute.

Few strikes or protests are expected over the coming weeks as Greek political life winds down for summer—but autumn could bring a new wave of resistance.

Dave Sewell

Collecting for Greeks

MEMBERS OF York People's Assembly and others raised £69.56 in solidarity with Greek workers in York town centre last Saturday.

Several Greek families signed the petition.

A woman married to a Greek man told us, "People in Greece see what you are doing here."

"It gives them hope that they are not alone."

Kim Hunter
York

We can still beat Tories

I THINK we should find the latest Tory legislation attacking trade union rights inspiring.

It is 36 years since Margaret Thatcher first launched these attacks, but the ruling class is still terrified of the power of the organised working class.

Under new legislation the Tories are pushing through we may have to work harder for a higher turnout to pass a threshold.

But think how solid those strikes will be.

They will be legitimate even on the Tories' own terms.

I have played a wide variety of sports over the years. Some clubs will "fix" a pitch to favour the home side.

We're faced with a Tory government dominated by old Etonians.

It will be nice to see them get a damned good thrashing on this particular "playing field" they have tried to fix.

Hugh Parsons
Swansea



ILLUSTRATION: TIM SANDERS

Glasgow striker—'Solidarity helped us beat the council'

A GREAT result occurred when the Glasgow homelessness caseworkers won our fight with Glasgow City Council.

The 17-week strike has had its moments and frustrations. But these have been made easier with the tremendous support we have received from our colleagues in the Socialist Workers Party (SWP).

From the very outset SWP members in Glasgow stood shoulder to shoulder with the strikers, encouraging us as we fought against the contempt of the council.

They sought out opportunities for us to speak and spread the word of our struggle. And they looked for opportunities to help us raise money for our fighting fund.

Most important to the strikers has been the friendships which have been made, the information shared and the enthusiasm in which they joined us at our demonstrations.

They have shown us by action that working together means much can be achieved! Their solidarity has been second to none and will be an important memory of our struggle.

The strike, although lengthy, had the result we all wanted.

WE WON, WE WON, WE WON! This is a great message to share to all those who are thinking of taking their own industrial action.

If we all stick together and fight a hard fight, we can defeat the management! This message is

especially true in these times when the austerity cuts are biting hard into the most vulnerable of our society.

It's at these times when the coming together of like-minded people can have most effect on our governing bodies, who have no real clue as to the impact of their actions are having on our communities.

So thanks again to all the members of the SWP for their encouragement, their presence and for their sharing of knowledge. It's really much appreciated by each and every one of the strikers.

In solidarity,

Mary Docherty
Glasgow

Blame the West for Isis and 'radicalisation'

DAVID CAMERON'S attack on people who blame the rise of Isis on the actions of the West can be likened to the fox accusing the chicken of discrimination for the annihilation in the chicken run.

Time will never change the fact that the illegal invasion of Iraq, and attacks on Afghanistan and Libya were indefensible.

The emergence of Isis is a direct result of the West's interference in these

countries.

Our rulers' latest tactic is to claim that the youth who join the likes of Isis are being radicalised.

Some might substitute radicalisation with education.

If David Cameron must attack anyone, he should attack the West's political leaders—whether or not they were simply lackeys of faceless tycoons.

William Burns
Edinburgh

Don't comply with funding attacks

THE TORIES' spiteful class attack on the political levy is a democratic and constitutional outrage.

It is a blatant attempt to destroy the Labour Party.

Further, what gives the state the right to intrude into the affairs of non-governmental organisations? If a Judicial Review challenging the illegitimate state intrusion



Len McCluskey, leader of the Unite union—one of Labour's biggest funders—speaks at Labour Party conference

into the private affairs of trades unions doesn't do the trick, then the unions should simply refuse to comply with this class attack on its internal affairs. The time for

pursuing "principled non-compliance" in relation to illegitimate, anti-democratic policy-making is surely fast approaching.

Dr Richard House
Stroud

Just a thought...

Well done to caseworkers

WONDERFUL news about the Glasgow homelessness caseworkers' victory (Socialist Worker, 25 July).

And it was great to hear them speak at Marxism 2015!

Adam Harmsworth
Coventry

Caseworkers an inspiration

THE caseworkers' victory is brilliant.

The strikers should be an inspiration to us all.

Mal Jones
on Twitter

It's right to bash bankers

IN RESPONSE to Unite Finance & Legal Sector (Letters, 25 July), Socialist Worker is right to bash the bankers.

We need to point to where the crisis originates. But we're clear that working class people working in banks are equally exploited by the corrupt capitalist system that banks and big business creates.

Gabby Thorpe
West London

Royals are extremists

WITH MUSLIM children being monitored for showing signs of being influenced by "extremist" ideology, isn't it time that the House of Windsor was paid a visit?

A member of each generation either wants to do a Nazi salute or dress up as one.

John Curtis
Ipswich

Nina Simone is not jazz

NINA SIMONE would not have appreciated being described as a "great jazz performer" (Socialist Worker, 25 July).

In a 1997 interview she said, "To most white people, jazz means black and jazz means dirt and that's not what I play. I play black classical music."

"That's why I don't like the term 'jazz', and Duke Ellington didn't either—it's a term that's simply used to identify black people."

Tony Phillips
East London

HOW WE'RE RESISTING ISLAMOPHOBIA

CAMERON'S INDUSTRY OF FEAR

The Tories relaunched their Islamophobic hate campaign with David Cameron's speech on 'extremism'. Ken Olende reports on how Muslims and anti-racists are responding

DAVID Cameron's recent speech in Birmingham ramped up Islamophobia with its talk of how "misguided liberalism and cultural sensitivity" stop people challenging extremism.

Hamza Sharif, a student at Kingston University in London, is one of several students from Muslim backgrounds who spoke to Socialist Worker about their response to Cameron's extremism speech.

Hamza said, "Cameron's speech told me that Prevent isn't spying on me as a young Muslim student."

"If I believe it is, that's paranoia in the extreme or a conspiracy theory put about by the extremists. He gave

BACK STORY

The government's "Prevent" strategy was made law with the Counter-Terrorism and Security Act 2015 in February

- It forces teachers, nursery workers and childminders to report anyone they suspect could be "radicalised" to the police

- The Tories claim Prevent is also about stopping the growth of the far right. But in practice Muslims have been the targets

- It was first launched by the Labour government in 2007

- For more about Prevent go to socialistworker.co.uk/art/39913/N

the speech in a perfect location—Birmingham, the city Fox News described as 'a no go zone for non-Muslims'. No paranoia there then."

"So I should just accept my lecturer being forced to police me. If I grow my beard in accordance with Islam and get reported for "unusual behaviour" that is empowering as it protects me from awful people."

Maz Saleem's experience after her father was murdered shows the double standards over terrorism. It is always presented as something which is done by Muslims rather than to Muslims.

She told a meeting last month, "My father was brutally murdered on the road he had lived on for more than 30 years for no other reason than that he was a devout Muslim with a beard."

"Ukrainian fascist Pavlo Lapshyn was convicted under the Terrorism Act. He got 40 years for Dad's

murder and setting off three nail bombs outside mosques in Walsall, Wolverhampton and Tipton.

"After the recent Tunisian attack the BBC reported that in the past few years there has only been one terrorist murder on British soil and that was Lee Rigby, may he rest in peace."

"I asked them about Dad's murder. They wrote back saying my father's death is a far right attack, but Lee Rigby was killed in an Islamist terrorist attack."

"But what would the BBC say if an individual went round setting off nail bombs outside churches?"

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extremism can have nothing to do with Western intervention since the invasion of Iraq came after 9/11. He appears to be unaware of a century of imperial intervention before that.

Hamza said, "Instead he tells us that views within Islam are the roots of extremism. Tackling extremism is 'the struggle of our generation'."

"He wants us to believe extremism comes through a 'process of radicalisation'."

"He needs to convince Muslims and non-Muslims that it is nothing to do with the most normalised form of racism isolating a group

of people in this country in the shape of Islamophobia."

"So Muslims need to sort out their own people and stop them becoming fanatics. In Cameron's vision Isis popped out of thin air. It had nothing to do with a vacuum left as a direct result of US-British intervention in Iraq."

Shaz Islam is a campus officer for Wolverhampton University student

union. "Coming a few days after Eid, Cameron's latest speech was a stark reminder that the state is really going after one group," he told Socialist Worker.

"I know people who take no notice when Cameron talks like this. They say, 'What do you expect from him'. But we have to do something because the Tories are moving up a gear."

"We're planning to make sure that whenever there is a Prevent meeting in the university it will be open and people who oppose what is being said can speak."

He added, "Outside of the uni we have the EDL coming and we have the same thing with some Muslims just saying 'Keep your heads

down and they will go away'. But I think we're

convincing people that it wasn't keeping our heads down that pushed the EDL back."

Saba Shiraz is black officer at Birkbeck College, University of London.

She said, "The weird thing about David Cameron's speech was how he tried to talk as if he cares about ordinary Muslims."

"The most hypocritical thing is how he picks and chooses his Muslims."

"He goes on about Muslims not being able to cope with modern values, but he's happy to be with the Saudi royal family who don't accept any of the values he calls British."

"And when he talks about the British values we should accept, he's

not talking about the values his lot used to build an empire on."

"We need to keep pointing people to the root causes of the problem and campaigning. In Birkbeck, I'm planning an event where we'll have Unite Against Fascism and other groups talking about what Prevent means."

Zahra Abdirahman, a teaching assistant, said, "The only way Muslims can fight against the hate being spread by the politicians is to unite with everyone—Jews, Christians and non-religious people hand in hand."

"These divisions from the top, between us the ordinary people, need a strong response on the streets to be tackled and to stop the mainstream Islamophobia."

CAMPAIGNING

Education workers and students resist Prevent

MORE THAN 300 people went to a meeting at the Marxism 2015 festival on tackling Islamophobia. Many speakers denounced the Tories attacks on Muslims.

Catherine Heseltine of the Muslim Public Affairs Committee UK spoke of how growth in the fear of Islam has gone along with policies pushed by governments.

She said, "Immediately after 9/11 only 10 percent of people in Britain saw Islam as a religion as a threat, a Huffington Post survey shows."

"Since then that figure has just about tripled."

Catherine said that Islamophobia is not just a human reaction to cultural difference. It has been purposely created by an Islamophobia industry.

"Remember the manufactured panic around gender segregation on campuses," Catherine said. "The prime minister weighed in. Though strangely he never speaks about gender segregation at Eton."

"It turned out that Student Rights—which produced the report that started all the fuss—was set up by the Islamophobic Henry Jackson Society."

William Shawcross from the Henry Jackson Society is the new head of the Charity Commission and uses that power to try and shut down funding for Cage and investigates Muslim charities.

Catherine said, "This is Islamophobia in the power structures, not like just a few EDL thugs on the streets."

Racism

Rob Ferguson is a teacher in Newham, east London, and Newham Stand Up Against Racism convener.

He said that state Islamophobia has been "taken to a new level" by the Counter-Terrorism and Security Act which passed in February.

Staff now have a statutory duty to report people who may be vulnerable to "Islamic non-violent extremism".

Rob said that "the scariest clause is the one that wants us to report discussions on 'Grievances to which terrorist organisations claim to have a



William Shawcross—the charity boss who's doing Cameron's dirty work

solution'. That one clause wipes out any possibility of discussing imperialism."

"For example, there was a minute's silence for the victims of the beach attack in Tunisia. All the Muslims I know at my school thought those murders were a vile, reactionary crime."

"Many also regard the slaughter of three boys playing football on the beach in Gaza by Israel as a vile, reactionary crime."

"Expressing the first sentiment proves you are a good Muslim, but expressing the second could get you seen as an extremist."

Unions

"Our teachers' unions have good positions on Prevent but they are nervous. We have to overcome the tendency to self-police."

A teacher at City and Islington College in London said, "None of the teachers interacted with our Prevent training at all."

"What teachers were saying was, 'We refuse to spy on our students.' We teach history and sociology and politics. How can we do that if people are afraid to talk?"

Robbie was a student at Newham Sixth Form College.

He said, "They booked Ghaffar Hussain, who is head of Prevent in Newham, to do Prevent training. They tried to keep this secret from students, but we found out."

"A group of largely Muslim students who had been campaigning round issues like building the 21 March anti-racist demo decided to fight that."

"We did a petition and we were successful. They cancelled him at the last minute."

"These students then sent out a mass email, calling on the college to oppose Prevent."

"Three of them received suspension letters. This was a clear clampdown on students defending themselves and being seen as rebellious."

"A group of us petitioned for them the next day. Managers came rushing out and they were terrified."

"The best response to these attacks is collective working class action."



Worryingly un-British? Muslims in London celebrating Eid last month



The only way we can fight against the hate being spread is to unite with everyone"



Hamza (right) on a protest

PICTURE: GUY SMALLMAN



Fascist graffiti is scrubbed from a mosque in Redditch

WHAT WE STAND FOR

These are the core politics of the Socialist Workers Party.

INDEPENDENT WORKING CLASS ACTION

Under capitalism workers' labour creates all profit. A socialist society can only be constructed when the working class seizes control of the means of production and democratically plans how they are used.

REVOLUTION NOT REFORM

The present system cannot be patched up or reformed as the established Labour and trade union leaders say.

It has to be overthrown. Capitalism systematically degrades the natural world. Ending environmental crisis means creating a new society.

THERE IS NO PARLIAMENTARY ROAD

The structures of the present parliament, army, police and judiciary cannot be taken over and used by the working class. They grew up under capitalism and are designed to protect the ruling class against the workers.

The working class needs an entirely different kind of state—a workers' state based upon councils of workers' delegates and a workers' militia.

At most parliamentary activity can be used to make propaganda against the present system.

Only the mass action of the workers themselves can destroy the system.

INTERNATIONALISM

The struggle for socialism is part of a worldwide struggle. We campaign for solidarity with workers in other countries.

We oppose everything which turns workers from one country against those from other countries.

We oppose racism and imperialism. We oppose all immigration controls.

We support the right of black people and other oppressed groups to organise their own defence. We support all genuine national liberation movements.

The experience of Russia demonstrates that a socialist revolution cannot survive in isolation in one country.

In Russia the result was state capitalism, not socialism. In Eastern Europe and China a similar system was later established by Stalinist parties.

We support the struggle of workers in these countries against both private and state capitalism.

We are for real social, economic and political equality of women. We are for an end to all forms of discrimination against lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender people.

We defend the right of believers to practise their religion without state interference.

THE REVOLUTIONARY PARTY

To achieve socialism the most militant sections of the working class have to be organised into a revolutionary socialist party.

Such a party can only be built by activity in the mass organisations of the working class.

We have to prove in practice to other workers that reformist leaders and reformist ideas are opposed to their own interests. We have to build a rank and file movement within the unions.

To join us, turn to page 16 or go to www.swp.org.uk or phone 020 7819 1170 for more information

{ SOCIALIST WORKER } BRANCH MEETINGS

Weekly meetings to discuss political issues and our local interventions. All welcome.

ABERDEEN

How left wing is anarchism?

Thu 6 Aug, 7pm,
The Snug, Ma Cameron's,
6-8 Little Belmont St,
AB10 1JG

BARNSELEY

After the election—is Labour moving to the right?

Thu 6 Aug, 6.30pm,
YMCA, Blucher St, S70 1AP

BIRMINGHAM: CITY CENTRE

From coal mines to call centres—how has the working class changed?

Wed 5 Aug, 7pm,
Birmingham LGBT Centre,
38/40 Holloway Circus,
B1 1EQ

BOLTON

A rebel's guide to Eleanor Marx

Wed 5 Aug, 6.30pm,
Bolton Socialist Club,
16 Wood St (off
Bradshawgate), BL1 1DY

BRIGHTON

The housing crisis—what's gone wrong and how can we put it right?

Wed 5 Aug, 7.30pm,
Friends Meeting House,
Ship St, BN1 1AF

BRISTOL: SOUTH

Trade unions—the bureaucracy and the rank and file

Wed 5 Aug, 7.30pm,
YHA,
14 Narrow Quay,
BS1 4QA

CAMBRIDGE

Organising the unorganised

Thu 13 Aug, 7.30pm,
Shanghai Family Restaurant,
39 Burleigh St, CB1 1DG

CARDIFF

Human nature—are we too selfish for socialism?

Wed 5 Aug, 7.30pm,
Cathays Community Centre,
Cathays Terrace, CF24 4HX

CHESTERFIELD

Are border controls racist?

Thu 6 Aug, 7.30pm,
Chesterfield Library (please
enter via Cafe Browser),
New Beetwell St, S40 1QN

COVENTRY

Malcolm X—fighting racism by any means necessary

Wed 5 Aug, 7.30pm,
West Indian Centre,
159 Spon St, CV1 3BB

DUNDEE

How do we stop Ukip?

Wed 5 Aug, 7.30pm,
Dundee Voluntary Action,
10 Constitution Rd, DD1 1LL

EDINBURGH

Is Podemos the future of the left?

Wed 5 Aug, 7.30pm,
The Clock Cafe,
255 Leith Walk, EH6 8NY

GLASGOW: SOUTH

The Orange Order—a carnival of reaction

Thu 6 Aug, 7.30pm,
Govanhill Baths,
99 Calder St, G42 7RA

HARLOW

In or out? What should socialists say about the EU referendum?

Thu 6 Aug, 7.30pm,
Friends Meeting House,
1 Church Leys, CM18 6BX

HUDDERSFIELD

How to be a trade union activist in the workplace today

Wed 5 Aug, 6.30pm,
Brian Jackson House,
2 New North Parade (near
both train and bus stations),
HD1 5JP

IPSWICH

State and revolution

Thu 6 Aug, 7pm,
Labour Club,
33-35 Silent St, IP1 1TF

SOCIALIST WORKER BRANCH MEETINGS

The smug complacency of the Labour leadership race has been undercut by left winger Jeremy Corbyn standing

CAN JEREMY CORBYN RECLAIM THE LABOUR PARTY?

BRADFORD

Wed 5 Aug, 7pm,
Equity Centre,
Perkin House,
82 Grattan Rd,
BD1 2LU

COLCHESTER

Tue 4 Aug, 7.30pm,
The Odd One Out,
28 Mersea Rd,
CO2 7ET

DERBY

Thu 6 Aug, 7pm,

West End Community Centre
(next to Britannia Mill),
Mackworth Rd, DE22 3BL

DONCASTER

Wed 5 Aug, 7.30pm,
Women's Centre,
21 Cleveland St,
DN1 3EH

EXETER

Thu 13 Aug, 7pm,
New Horizon Café,
47 Longbrook St,
EX4 6AW

LONDON: CAMDEN

Thu 6 Aug, 7pm,
Theatro Technis,
26 Crowndale Rd, NW1 1TT

LONDON: SOUTHWARK

Thu 6 Aug, 7pm,
Snug Room, The Grand Union,
26 Camberwell Grove (off
Camberwell Church St),
SE5 8RE

PLYMOUTH

Thu 6 Aug, 7pm,
Quaker House,

74 Mutley Plain,
PL4 6LF

SHEFFIELD: CITY CENTRE

Thu 6 Aug, 7.30pm,
Central United Reformed
Church, 60 Norfolk St (near
the Crucible theatre), S1 2JB

WIGAN

Wed 5 Aug, 7pm,
Little Fifteen pub,
17-19 Wallgate (opposite
Wigan Post Office), WN1 1LD

KIRKCALDY

Greece—the battle against the bankers

Mon 3 Aug, 7.30pm,
Betty Nicol's pub,
297 High St,
KY1 1JL

LEEDS: CITY CENTRE

The struggle for LGBT liberation

Thu 6 Aug, 7pm,
The Swarthmore Education
Centre, 2-7 Woodhouse Square,
LS3 1AD

LONDON: BRENT & HARROW

How can we beat the Tories?

Thu 6 Aug, 7.30pm,
The Pepperpot Centre,
1a Thorpe Close,
Ladbroke Grove (close to the
station), W10 5XL

LONDON: BRIXTON

Trotsky and Trotskyism—75 years since his murder

Wed 5 Aug, 7pm,
Vida Walsh Centre,
2b Saltoun Rd (near Effra
Rd, facing Windrush Square),
SW2 1EP

LONDON: EALING

Yemen and the war on terror—what do socialists say?

Wed 5 Aug, 7.30pm,
W3 Gallery, 185 High St.
Acton, W3 9DJ

LONDON: HACKNEY

Syriza, Greece and the struggle against austerity

Thu 6 Aug, 7.30pm,
The Round Chapel,
2 Powerscroft Rd (corner
Lower Clapton Rd),
E5 0PU

LONDON: HORNSEY AND WOOD GREEN

Hegel and revolution

Wed 5 Aug, 7.30pm,
West Indian Cultural Centre,
9 Clarendon Rd,
Haringey, N8 0DD

LONDON: ISLINGTON

Trotsky and Trotskyism—75 years since his murder

Thu 6 Aug, 7pm,
The Old Fire Station,
84 Mayton St, N7 6QT

LONDON: KINGSTON

Do the trade unions still have power?

Wed 5 Aug, 7pm,
Kingston Quaker Centre,
Fairfield East, KT1 2PT

LONDON: LEWISHAM

Marxism and terrorism

Wed 5 Aug, 7.30pm,
West Greenwich Community
and Arts Centre,
141 Greenwich High Rd (near
Greenwich main line and DLR
Station), SE10 8JA

LONDON: NEWHAM

What do we mean by revolution?

Wed 5 Aug, 7pm,
Stratford Advice Arcade,
107-109 The Grove (next to
Morrisons car park),
E15 1HP

LONDON: TOTTENHAM

How do we fight Islamophobia and racism today?

Wed 5 Aug, 7.30pm,
Kitavevi Cafe, 410 Tottenham
High Rd, N17 9JB

LONDON: TOWER HAMLETS

The roots of reformism

Wed 5 Aug, 7pm,
Oxford House, Derbyshire St
(opp Bethnal Green Rd Tesco),
E2 6HG

LONDON: WALTHAM FOREST

Raunch culture—how do we fight for women's liberation today?

Wed 5 Aug, 7.30pm,
Quaker Meeting House,
1a Jewel Rd (off Hoe St),
E17 4QU

MANCHESTER: CITY CENTRE

In or out? What should socialists say about the EU referendum?

Thu 6 Aug, 7pm,
Friends Meeting House,
6 Mount St, M2 5NS

MANCHESTER: LONGSIGHT AND LEVENSHULME

In or out? What should socialists say about the EU referendum?

Wed 5 Aug, 7.30pm,
Food Factory, 884 Stockport
Rd, Levenshulme, M19 3BN

MEDWAY

Why are there so few strikes in Britain?

Thu 13 Aug, 7.30pm,
Conference room,
Nucleus Arts Centre,
272 High St,
Chatham, ME4 4BP

NEWCASTLE

Islamophobia and the politics of fear

Thu 6 Aug, 7pm,
Broadacre House,
Market St, NE1 6HQ

NORWICH

Capitalism in crisis—was Marx right?

Thu 6 Aug, 7.30pm,
Vauxhall Centre,
Johnson Place, NR2 2SA

NOTTINGHAM

1919—Britain on the brink of revolution

Wed 5 Aug, 7.30pm,
International Community
Centre,
61b Mansfield Rd, NG1 3FN

OXFORD

In or out? What should socialists say about the EU referendum?

Wed 5 Aug, 7.30pm,
Restore, Manzil Way (off
Cowley Rd),
OX4 1YH

PORTSMOUTH

What are the lessons from Chile in 1973?

Wed 5 Aug, 7.30pm,
Somerstown Central,
Rivers St, PO5 4EY

ROTHERHAM

Greece—the battle against the bankers

Wed 5 Aug, 7pm,
Talbot Lane Methodist Church
Centre,
Moorgate St, S60 2EY

SWANSEA

70 years since Hiroshima—capitalism and nuclear war

Thu 6 Aug, 7.30pm,
Brynmill Community Centre,
St Albans Rd,
SA2 0BP

WOLVERHAMPTON AND WALSALL

Islamophobia today—racism and the politics of fear

Wed 5 Aug, 7.30pm,
Grain Store,
King St, WV1 1ST

YORK

In or out? What should socialists say about the EU referendum?

Wed 5 Aug, 7.30pm,
Sea Horse Hotel,
4 Fawcett St,
YO10 4AH

{ MOVEMENT EVENTS }

DORSET

Greece—the end of the line for the EU?

Sat 1 Aug, 1.30pm,
Colliton Club (opposite
County Hall), Colliton Park,
Dorchester DT1 1XJ.
Organised by Dorset Socialists

LONDON

The Coward—conscience on trial

With author Tom Wall
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This rich artistic tradition can also help to keep you sane

Palestinian artists are taking centre stage at this year's Edinburgh Festival—and that makes the event something to really celebrate, writes **Mark Brown**

THE BOYCOTT, Divestment and Sanctions (BDS) movement against the apartheid Israeli state made headlines at last year's Edinburgh Festival Fringe.

Opposition from BDS campaigners meant all performances of shows by two Israeli-state funded companies, Incubator Theatre and Pola Dance, were cancelled.

Many of Scotland's most prominent artists signed an open letter calling for a boycott of state-funded Israeli arts.

This year's Fringe is exciting for what is taking place on-stage, rather than off, as Palestinian artists take a prominent role in the world's biggest arts festival.

Young circus artists Ashtar Muallem and Fadi Zmorrod perform B-orders by the Palestinian Circus School.

It's a poetic and metaphorical work of physical theatre that explores the human desire for freedom of expression and control.

Intriguingly it is staged by the same producer who tried to stage the Incubator Theatre of Israel show last year.

Muallem and Zmorrod recently performed in the excellent Palestinian/Belgian co-production by Les Ballets C de la B at the Southbank Centre in London.

Superb

Anyone who saw them will know that a superb production is in prospect.

Underbelly will also host a series of panels on "censorship and freedom of expression" throughout the Fringe.

Socialist festival-goers should get along and take part in the debate.

On 23 August, the Forest Fringe



B-ORDERS LOOKS at the desire for freedom and control

PICTURE: PHOTOGRAPHIE VÉRONIQUE VERCHEVAL

venue will host surely the most important Palestinian arts programme ever to be presented on the Edinburgh Fringe.

Welcome to the Fringe: Palestine Day is the brainchild of leading playwright and Palestinian rights activist David Greig.

It features Palestinian artists working in various art forms.

Al Harah Theatre company from Bethlehem will perform their play Shakespeare's Sisters, a piece about the fragility of cultural identity.

Contemporary dance artist Farah Saleh explores the changing role of performance for Palestinians who are engaging with international culture.

The Shaghaf Ensemble from Jenin brings music from the rich Palestinian tradition. And there's comedy in a show entitled Aqlan by Ayman Nahas from Haifa.

"Being a Palestinian and a citizen of Israel can drive you crazy", said Nahas. "That is what Aqlan is about. Aqlan in Arabic means sane or sober minded."

Lovers of the performing arts should explore the many programmes on offer in Edinburgh in August.

Especially look at those of the Edinburgh International Festival, Forest Fringe, Summerhall and the Traverse Theatre.

The leading role of Palestinian artists makes this year's festival something to really celebrate.

For more details on the Welcome to the Fringe: Palestine Day programme, visit forestfringe.co.uk

A fascinating and fun collection of films and footage

FILM

BRITAIN ON FILM

British Film Institute
player.bfi.org.uk/britain-on-film

OLD HOME movies and newsreels have been in the news recently. But there is more to see than just rich Nazis.

Britain on Film is a project aiming to digitise 10,000 films from the BFI's archive of more than a million titles by 2017.

You can search by decade or region and view 2,500 clips online.

They can be arranged by decade, area or subject.

Moslems in Britain (bit.ly/1gPQIU0) were propaganda films produced by the Foreign Office in 1961.

They were intended to get people from the Middle East to move to Cardiff and Manchester.

Ulster (bit.ly/1RTtHAa) is a flawed but fascinating Workers Revolutionary Party documentary on Northern Ireland

For instance, the activities of the Sussex Communist Party (bit.ly/1GG6LZn) in 1939



King Kong says, decent pay now!

were filmed by party organiser Ernie Trory.

The film shows protests and arrests outside a dole office, and quite a lot else as part of a "People's Newsreel".

During the miners' strike of 1972 there is a wonderfully relaxed confrontation at a picket line at Usworth Colliery in County Durham (bit.ly/1LFbtNw).

From the same year footage of Birmingham building workers occupying a King Kong (bit.ly/1RTuJvZ)—and cops trying to get them

down—is fun.

The range of films is far broader than strikes though.

Old local documentaries on the world of work were intended to promote local businesses. Yet they often give a glimpse of life at work through the decades.

Some like Covent Garden porters (bit.ly/1UxtcL7) are just fun. Others are a first draft of oral history.

Some longer films cost a few quid to view but there are hours of free browsing too.

Simon Basketter

RADIO

FAST FOOD WORKERS

The Food Programme, Radio 4.
Available on BBC iPlayer at bbc.in/1SE7IIB

IT'S UNUSUAL for US fast food workers campaigning for \$15 an hour to get to tell their story on national radio.

Here workers explain how poverty pay affects them and their children—and how they are fighting back.

The programme also interviews fast food workers in Britain and shows how US workers have made links with them.



A US fast food worker protests

BOOK

MOTHERLAND

Jo McMillan
Published by John Murray.
£16.99 hardback

THIS NOVEL begins with a small left wing paper sale.

It's 1978 and 13 year old Jess is trying to help her mum Eleanor win over the people of Tamworth.

She gets organised in the Young Communist League, which is less impressive than she'd imagined.

Bits of this book are hackneyed. Others read like Adrian Mole, although not quite as good. But some are genuinely funny.

Sadie Robinson

TOP 5 BOOKS

Bestsellers at Bookmarks, the socialist Bookshop

- Fighting on All Fronts—Popular Resistance in the Second World War**
Edited by Donny Gluckstein
- Them and Us—Fighting the Class War, 1910-1939**
John Newsinger
- Rebel Footprints**
David Rosenberg
- This Changes Everything**
Naomi Klein
- Blacklisted**
Dave Smith and Phil Chamberlain

Phone 020 7637 1848
bookmarksbookshop.co.uk
Why not visit the shop at 1 Bloomsbury Street, London WC1B 3QE

THE prospect of left-winger Jeremy Corbyn being the next Labour leader is sending shivers of fear through most of its MPs and the party bureaucracy. But it's energising many anti-austerity activists.

War criminal Tony Blair has launched an assault telling anyone whose heart told them to go with Corbyn to “get a transplant”.

He added, “Unity does not work if you're all together in the bus going over the edge of the cliff.”

Several of the MPs who nominated Corbyn for the leadership now say they regret their action.

But many Labour members back Corbyn, and there's no mystery about his popularity. He speaks clearly for an alternative to austerity, racism and war.

Whatever the Labour right says, Corbyn's views are widely popular with people who back rail renationalisation, rent controls and taxing the rich more.

He doesn't just speak—he's been on protests and picket lines for more than 40 years.

This sets him apart from the other three candidates. At one recent event Corbyn supported boycotts and divestment against Israel in support of the Palestinians.

Andy Burnham called the Boycott, Divestment and Sanctions campaign “spiteful” and “completely unjustified”, Yvette Cooper said it was “counterproductive” and Liz Kendall said she would fight it with “every fibre in her being”.

Focus

Corbyn has become a focus for the widespread feeling that we cannot take another five years of the Tories and that Labour is much, much too right wing.

The Labour leadership instructing MPs not to vote against the Tories' savaging of welfare (and four fifths of Labour MPs including Burnham, Cooper and Kendall disgracefully following) strongly confirms that view.

Across Europe many Labour-style parties have nosedived as they implemented austerity and allied themselves with the political establishment.

In Greece Pasok has almost been obliterated. In the Spanish state the equivalent of Labour is under severe challenge from the radical Podemos party.

In Scotland Labour was virtually annihilated by a Scottish National Party (SNP) that spoke to its left.

In England and Wales, in the absence of sustained working class struggle or a credible mass alternative to Labour, Corbyn has acted as a lightning-rod for the yearning for a “better left”.

We welcome the widespread backing for Corbyn as a sign of support for left ideas and the



FORMER NEW Labour prime ministers Gordon Brown and Tony Blair cosied up to big business and betrayed working class voters

IS CORBYN THE WAY FORWARD?

The support for Jeremy Corbyn's campaign is a very good sign but Labour isn't the answer, argues **Charlie Kimber**, national secretary of the Socialist Workers Party (SWP)



Blairite Liz Kendall

potential for resistance. But there are four sets of lessons from Labour's recent history that are important.

First, its leaders traditionally bow towards the bankers, bosses and media barons, to chase votes.

They are horrified when they imagine what the Daily Mail newspaper would do with Corbyn as leader, and see no way of overcoming it.

At the general election Labour ran a cowardly campaign



Struggle is more fundamental than slick campaigning

which, despite its occasional lurches towards more inspiring policies, firmly followed the pro-austerity consensus.

As the campaign progressed, Ed Miliband underlined Labour's determination to cut the deficit, balance the books—and repulse the SNP.

Labour also pandered to the poisonous lie that migrants are to blame for low wages, too few jobs, the housing crisis and cuts in public services.

If you want to know why

15 million people did not vote, the roots lie in Labour's failure to offer a real alternative to the Tories.

Yet after the election the main drive from those at the top of Labour has been rightwards.

Jeremy Corbyn would agree with this criticism. But Labour has 232 MPs, and only nine are members of the Socialist Campaign Group to which he belongs. That's why there is talk of civil war inside Labour if Corbyn wins.

Secondly, there has been a decades-long decline in Labour's hold on working class votes, particularly in the era of New Labour. In 1997 Labour won the election with 13.5 million votes.

It wasn't Tony Blair's brilliance that secured this success. Instead it was because the Tories were rightly seen as corrupt and interested only in a tiny (rich) section of society.

At the next election in 2001, even before the blood-soaked Iraq War, Labour's vote fell by nearly 3 million. Another 1.1 million departed by 2005, and another million by 2010.

NEW Labour's rotten record of boosting inequality and embracing the rich at home, and championing imperialist slaughter abroad drove away five million votes.

Over the same period its membership slumped from 405,000 to around 180,000. New Labour was disastrous.

Thirdly, struggle is more fundamental than slick political campaigning. People's views are shaped by experience.

The student revolt of 2010 and the mass strikes and marches of 2011 gave momentum to an anti-Tory mood in Britain. Workers' sense of solidarity and confidence grew.

But the choking off of the strikes by trade union and Labour leaders eroded the feeling of collective revolt.

In its place came the pressures of individualism and hesitation about following a Labour Party that seemed scared of any real change.

It's not enough to just put forward left policies. There needs to be the wellspring of resistance and revolt to change people's ideas.

But there is a fourth level of analysis about Labour where Corbyn differs from us.

It is that power does not lie in parliament. The state structures of the police, army, judges, prisons and spies are wholly insulated from democracy. They exist to thwart change, not enable it.

The unelected and unaccountable owners of capital will use their financial and social power to block reforms that threaten business.

They will use global institutions to bully governments, they will engineer currency panics, choke off credit and

funds or withdraw investment and close factories.

And if none of that works (and it usually does) they will use violence to defend their rule. Only by tackling the system at its roots can such blackmail be defeated.

That means a party based on struggle—not elections—and on strikes and protests, not parliament. It means fighting for revolution not reform.

It means a socialist alternative to Labour, built in the struggle and through working in common battles alongside people inside and outside Labour. That's what the SWP is doing.

The history of Labour is a history of betrayed hope because the party seeks change without challenging capitalism or the state. Even at its high points, such as the 1945 government, Labour only went as far as the capitalists would permit it.

So good luck to Corbyn, and we argue inside the unions affiliated to Labour that they should recommend a vote for him.

We hope his campaign will encourage a stronger movement on the streets and in the workplaces against austerity and racism.

We hope all Corbyn's supporters come to the Manchester demonstration at the Tory party conference in October.

But we are not joining Labour, or registering as supporters—a process that requires a pledge that “I support the aims and values of the Labour Party, and I am not a supporter of any organisation opposed to it”.

There is a real danger that Corbyn's campaign can turn people back to the worm-eaten project of transforming Labour.

If you sign up to support Corbyn, why not stay to help Diane Abbott be the candidate for London mayor, or to select a better local MP or councillor? That's a dead-end.

In 1981 Tony Benn waged a massive campaign to be the deputy leader of the Labour Party. It terrified the ruling class. Many socialists who had organised separately from Labour plunged into the party.

The SWP's Paul Foot wrote to Benn's supporters at the end of the campaign.

His main appeal was not to be “hypnotised by the struggle for the soul of the Labour Party” but instead “to put your



Jeremy Corbyn (above) has become a focus for anti-austerity anger (top)
PICTURES: GUY SMALLMAN



Labour 2015 election mug

READ MORE

● **Three letters to a Bennite** by Paul Foot, bit.ly/1g9a9Hv

● **The Labour Party: A Marxist History** by Tony Cliff and Donny Gluckstein, £5

● **A Rebel's Guide to Rosa Luxemburg** by Sally Campbell, £3

● **Debate: Syriza in power: whither Greece?** Watch video from Marxism 2015 at bit.ly/1SFXOGn

Available at Bookmarks, the socialist bookshop. Phone 020 7637 1848 or go to bookmarksbookshop.co.uk



Dispossession is at heart of the Palestinian problem

Palestinian activist and writer **Ghada Karmi**, who published a new memoir recently, reflects on the fight for Palestinian rights

IT HAS become fashionable for people to forget about the right to return.

The narrative moves on from the expulsion of the Palestinians from their land in 1948, to the Palestinian Authority, Hamas/Fatah rivalry and the siege of Gaza.

All these are very important. But I believe these preoccupations are dust in the eye, because the basis of the Palestinian story is the question of the dispossession. That is the context for the right of return.

The cover of my new book shows a key, and this image has become the iconic symbol for the Palestinian right of return.

It is testimony to Israel's success that it has buried this aspect of Palestinian life quite effectively.

But today the very mention of return is still meaningful to every Palestinian in his or her heart.

Return

My book is not about how to get all the refugees home. It's a consideration of return and an account of a sort of return for me.

For me physical return is impossible—I was born in West Jerusalem. The house we lived in was long taken over by Israeli families. I visited several times. Each time it was a different family living there.

So I cannot return to the home I was born in. But Palestine was a place I could return to.

I have never forgotten where I came from. I believed that this injustice could not endure and that Israel would be called to account one day.

In 2005



Ghada Karmi



GHADA KARMI (left) and Ellen Siegel, demonstrate the injustice of Israel's law of 'return' in 1973

it's all derived from the occupation.

We know that every colonist in history has cultivated and looked after a particular class. It's pretty pathetic—they are VIPs who can pass through checkpoints, in return they are left alone.

Of course they end up oppressing the people around them, not the oppressor.

Now 4.5 million Palestinians live in refugee camps and 1.8 million live under Israeli rule. In the West Bank and Gaza together there are some 5 million and about 4 million live in exile.

More Palestinians live outside than inside.

Yet Palestinian negotiators have been willing to use the right of return as a bargaining chip. It's terrible.

A theme reoccurs every time we talk of Israel—it does what it does because it can, because nobody stops it.

But I want to ask you to join the Boycott, Divestment and Sanctions (BDS) movement. In all my years in the West I have not seen a movement so promising and encouraging.

The Palestinians want people to target Israel, and that is what we can do living on this side of the world. BDS is a wonderful tool to end Israel's impunity.

This is an edited version of a talk Ghada Karmi gave at the Marxism 2015 festival in July. **Return, a Palestinian Memoir**, by Ghada Karmi Verso Books, £16.99 is available from Bookmarks bookmarksbookshop.co.uk

RAGE AGAINST THE TORIES


DEMONSTRATE

NO TO

AUSTERITY

SUNDAY 4 OCTOBER
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MANCHESTER

Assemble 12.30pm with a rally 1pm on Oxford Road
Demonstration called by the TUC tuc.org.uk



THE PEOPLE'S ASSEMBLY
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The People's Assembly and friends from supporting organisations and institutions will host a series of events throughout the week.

Topics will include—trade unions, welfare, racism, housing, Islamophobia, war, education, climate, media, TTIP, transport, NHS, economy, Scotland and Europe.

These meetings will run alongside a series of direct actions and protests all over Manchester and around the Tory party conference.

Evenings will see a full spectrum of entertainment including huge gigs featuring international artists, "Laugh them out of town" comedy nights, spoken word and other performances.

THEPEOPLESASSEMBLY.ORG.UK

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Tory council nightmare to boost robbery by the rich

Selling off services means misery for ordinary people and more wealth for the rich—now the privateers are using cuts to grab more, writes Raymie Kiernan

INSTEAD of celebrating his severely disabled daughter Roisin's 15th birthday two weeks ago Paul Rooney was fighting off bailiffs trying to evict him from his home.

Solidarity from Unite union and other activists in Bromley, south London, blocked the eviction.

Paul was handed a £51,000 council tax bill by Liberata, the firm that Tory-run Bromley council has farmed out its council tax collection service to.

Unite said Liberata made mistakes in processing Paul's application for council tax benefit, which meant the council tax wasn't paid on time.

It is alleged he owes £2,000 in council tax and that the firm added £49,000 in solicitors' fees.

The case against privatisation could not be clearer—but the situation is set to get worse.

Only Greece, Spain and Ireland have made higher public spending cuts than Britain in recent years.

And neoliberal ideologues are using cuts as an opportunity for more mass selloffs of services.

Outsourcing, where services are contracted out to private firms, has accelerated rapidly under austerity.

Wave

"We are in the middle of the biggest wave of government outsourcing since the 1980s," a CBI report noted in 2012.

The transfer of public money to private hands doubled between 2010 and last year to £88 billion.

The bosses' Financial Times newspaper could barely contain its excitement about the "entrepreneurial thinking" that dominates local



OUTSOURCED WORKERS in Barnet have fought against attacks on their pay

PICTURE: SOCIALIST WORKER

government after five years of cuts.

"The more that Mr Osborne reduces the size of the state," it salivated, "the more difficult it will become for councils to meet rising demand with diminishing resources."

Localis, a neoliberal local government think tank run by Tories, called this "a perfect storm".

It hopes councils will become "ever more independent of central government in terms of financial support (and therefore hopefully legislation)".

Labour costs and trade union facility time are prime targets for the axe.

Wholesale outsourcing of the workforce is increasingly common as councils "balance the books".

Even the limited protections workers had under Tupe legislation, covering transfer from the public to private sector, are being whittled away.

Bosses can ignore collective bargaining agreements.

Wage protections have been scrapped, as has a code of practice governing workforce matters in public sector contracts.

Voluntary "good practice" principles have replaced it. But adhering to

them costs bosses money—and they are more likely to win contracts for outsourced services if they can deliver them cheap.

The Tory ideologues' nightmare vision is of "commercial councils".

If union leaders don't lead a real fight the end of local government as we know it could be just around the corner.



On other pages...

Jeremy Corbyn and the state of the Labour Party >>Pages 14&15

Big bucks for the bosses

KENT COUNTY Council's commercial and traded services businesses turn over £400 million in revenue and brokerage charges.

It is the largest public sector trading organisation in Europe.

Kent council cabinet member Bryan Sweetland said staff see themselves as "profit centres rather than cost centres".

By the end of this Tory government all councils will own a trading company, according to Localis.

Some 58 percent already have one. They go under various guises but



Bryan Sweetland

all have the same purpose—to remove liability for the services they run and the workers they employ from councils' books.

Some councils are further along this route than others.

Tory-run Barnet Council has led the way, using the north London borough as a neoliberal experiment since 2009.

Its latest wave of outsourcing could leave just a few hundred directly employed staff.

Other Tory-run councils have been racing to catch up with Barnet. They include Northamptonshire and Suffolk county councils and Bromley Council in south London.

Selloffs mean services suffer

COMPANIES running outsourced services are committed to shareholder dividends and profit—not the public sector.

In Suffolk the council handed over its care homes to private health firm Care UK as part of a £60 million deal to build ten new homes.

The Care Quality Commission (CQC) slammed Care UK for failing four out of five care standards at one of the homes last year.

It was forced to close admissions to two of the three new homes it had opened.

Similarly, one of the creations of the Tories in Barnet was the subject

of a scathing CQC report this year.

It rated standards at the council-owned care firm "inadequate".

Common themes were low staffing levels and ill-trained staff.

Care UK took over the running of supported living services at Labour-run Doncaster Council in South Yorkshire in September 2013.

Bosses set about attacking the conditions of experienced staff.

They slashed pay for some by up to 35 percent.

Workers fought back with 90 days of strikes.

But sadly their determination was never matched by their national union, Unison.



Some 150,000 lose home care

IN 2009/10 English councils funded or arranged home care for 65 out of 1,000 over-65s.

The equivalent figure in 2013/14 was 46—so this is a real terms cut of 28 percent.

That's 150,000 older people losing access to a service they would have received four years ago.



Reps' jobs have got ever harder

ONE QUARTER of Unison union local government branches have suffered a cut in facility time in the past two years.

With outsourcing on the rise, union reps in councils find representing members who work for other employers covered by the branch increasingly difficult.

Over two thirds of branches told the union they can no longer do this kind of work.



Safety checks are slashed

THE TORIES hate "red tape".

In five years their cuts have seen proactive health and safety inspections made by councils in England drop by 91 percent—from 54,175 to 4,901.

Fifty three councils have abandoned them altogether.

IN BRIEF

Pride in Norwich and Nottingham

UP TO 5,000 marched through and lined the streets of Norwich for the annual Pride march last Saturday.

Lesbians and Gays Support the Miners (LGSM) led a noisy contingent of trade unionists and campaigners.

Thousands also joined Nottingham's Pride march on the same day.

Sellafield's safety monitors go nuclear

HEALTH PHYSICS monitors at the Sellafield nuclear power plant walked out for 24 hours on Tuesday of last week.

The GMB union members voted by 97.8 percent to strike on a 84 percent turnout. Bosses are trying to cut pay through a regrading process.

The workers are responsible for assessing levels of radiation to meet health and safety standards.

New offer pauses Gunstones pay row

WORKERS AT Gunstones bakery in Sheffield have postponed a planned 24-hour strike following a revised pay offer from management.

The members of the Bfawu union could strike for two days from 13 August if they vote to reject the offer.

Union officials are recommending that they vote to accept.

Workers had planned to strike next week after rejecting an earlier offer. They struck for 48 hours in June.

Food bank Tory MP gets taste of anger

DAVID MUNDELL, secretary of state for Scotland and Scotland's only Tory MP, was greeted by 150 protesters in Dumfries last week.

He was there to open a food bank. Demonstrators stopped him from leaving by the back door.

The police broke up the crowd so Mundell could flee—to shouts of "Tory Scum out".

Duncan McIntyre

It's a fine mess for Hackney wardens

TRAFFIC WARDENS in Hackney, east London, were set to strike on Monday and Tuesday of next week, demanding better sick pay.

Their union, Unite, warned the council will lose revenue from fines during the strike.

The 30 workers voted unanimously to strike. They are employed by contractor APCOA Parking.

Benefits protest in Milton Keynes

AROUND 40 people protested in Milton Keynes last Saturday against benefit cuts and for rent controls.

They hung a banner from local landmark The Point.

Kate Hunter

CONSTRUCTION

Protest forces bosses to follow the rules—instead of sacking the rep

RANK AND file construction workers and their supporters took on the Morgan Stanley Corporation on Monday of this week—and won.

Unite union shop steward Graeme was sacked in Canary Wharf, east London, after he asked for direct employment for all the electricians on site.

The company D&D are subcontracting for Phoenix Electrical, who are signed up to the JIB national agreement. Under JIB rules all workers on site should be directly employed.

Despite an injunction and threats of arrest bosses backed down and Graeme was reinstated.

Discussions to get workers on direct employment were ongoing as Socialist Worker went to press.

Graeme said, "Millions of workers are being denied their basic employment rights by the use of zero hours contracts, employment agencies and umbrella scams. But we don't have to passively accept these abuses. Today proved that if we fight back, we can win".

Dave Smith, secretary of the Blacklist Support Group (BSG) was in court last week, charged with unlawful obstruction of the highway at a protest in March.

The trial has been moved to next January.



WORKERS AND supporters at Canary Wharf on Monday morning

PICTURE: GUY SMALLMAN

EDUCATION

London Met workers strike to defend union

by **SADIE ROBINSON**

WORKERS AT London Metropolitan University struck on Friday of last week in defence of jobs and against victimisations.

The walkout involved admin workers, media technicians, library and IT staff in the Union union.

It was their third strike this year.

Bosses there have issued compulsory redundancy notices to Union members Frank Duffy, Natasha Lalovic and Max Watson, who is Union branch secretary at London Met.

Union members have condemned the attacks as "politically motivated".

Max told Socialist Worker, "The strike went very well. We closed two out of three

libraries and caused chaos as the internal post wasn't delivered. People have a good feeling about it."

Bosses got some non-unionised workers to run students' exams but Max said the action was solid among union members.

Supporters

He added, "We had loads of support throughout the day. Supporters came from Islington local government, City and Islington College, the Royal College of Hygiene, UCL, LSE, Queen Mary's, Birkbeck and Soas."

Dave Prentis, general secretary of Unison, sent a message of support to strikers.

Prentis said, "When employers are threatened, they try to take out our leaders. We all know that Max has

been a redoubtable defender of Unison members and that, without his work, many members would have lost their jobs.

"Unison will do all it can to defend our members' jobs."

Unions were meeting management on Monday of this week.

And Unison members were set to decide their next moves as Socialist Worker went to press.

Max said, "There's a lot of focus on me as I'm the branch secretary, but we should remember there are three compulsory redundancies.

"We will need to see what happens as a result of appeals against the redundancies.

"And we would urge people to sign our petition and support us."

●Sign the petition to defend Max Watson at bit.ly/1LMudMB

LEGAL AID



Protesters in Westminster mock Tory minister Michael Gove

PICTURE: SARA TOMLINSON

Barristers' action begins

THE BARRISTERS' Criminal Bar Association (CBA) began action on Monday of this week against Legal Aid cuts.

Barristers are not covering "returns", when they stand in for colleagues whose cases take longer than expected.

Francis FitzGibbon QC of the CBA told BBC Radio, "The sector is being cut to

the bone and there's no fat left on it."

Their action was in support of solicitors who were refusing to take on new legal aid work after 1 July.

But solicitors decided last week to limit their action to crown courts. The CBA was set to meet on Monday night to decide on its next steps.

ANTI-RACISM

MORE THAN 100 people joined a march and vigil at just two days notice in New Brighton, The Wirral, last Saturday in response to a racist assault.

Local man Bashi was hit with an iron bar a week ago defending his family against racist abuse.

He said the attack made him consider moving away, but the march and messages of support had changed his mind.

Trade unionists and a local councillor spoke. To loud applause, several speakers said politicians who take away hope with their cuts while stirring up hatred with attacks on multiculturalism should also be in the dock.

Alex May

OBITUARY

Paul McGoay 1972-2015

PAUL MCGOAY, who died this week, was a true socialist. He was a working class intellectual and a real friend to many who sought his help.

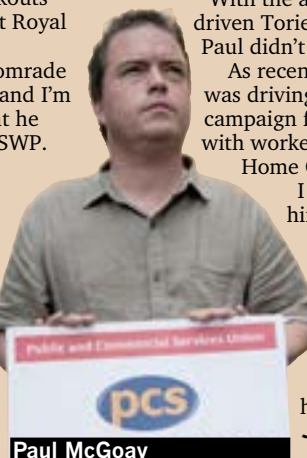
In the struggle against injustice Paul led the charge—a reliable and hard-working man with a warm manner.

Paul graduated from Cambridge University, where he mentored younger students. It was an early act of the generosity that prevailed throughout a life sadly cut short.

When we first met he would regale me with stories of lightning walkouts while working at Royal Mail.

Here was a comrade in the making—and I'm happy to say that he later joined the SWP.

From 2000 onwards Paul earned a deserved reputation for defending members within the PCS trade union at the Passport Office. He



Paul McGoay

PICTURE: GUY SMALLMAN

played an important role in the union and was Group President for nearly a decade.

Paul was touched when offered the role as treasurer for two of Mark Serwotka's re-election campaigns.

Paul was central to a series of strikes that challenged office closures in Newport and Glasgow.

A dedicated anti-fascist, he was also instrumental in getting PCS backing for demonstrations against the EDL outside the Home Office and in Peterborough.

When I retired from the Passport Office in 2009 I was so proud of Paul. He had shown that a strong union could help deliver a first class public service—where people not profits came first.

With the austerity-driven Tories in office, Paul didn't give in.

As recently as 2014 he was driving forward the campaign for pay parity with workers at the Home Office.

I shall miss him.

His love of books and his admiration of Bob Dylan made him a truly wonderful human being.

Joel Hirsch

HOSPITALS

Fed up of NHS privatisation

SOME 40 people protested outside Luton and Dunstable hospital on Wednesday morning of last week against a new plan to privatise cleaning and housekeeping.

They held banners and placards from the Unison, NUT and Unite unions. Labour MP Kelvin Hopkins joined the protest.

Hospital bosses argue that privatisation will drive up standards by bringing in

new equipment. But the new project depends on making profit. Cost-cutting will become more important than good healthcare.

Patients' meals will now be prepared off-site, brought to the hospital then warmed up again. This brings infection risks as well as being much poorer in quantity, choices, nutritional value and taste.

Dave Holes

DEATHS IN CUSTODY

Campaign calls for justice against cops

by CARLO MORELLI

MORE THAN 150 people attended the launch conference for the Justice for Sheku Bayoh Campaign in Glasgow last Saturday.

Eleven people have died in police custody in Scotland since the single Police Scotland force was formed just two years ago.

Sheku, a 31 year old father of two, died after encountering at least nine police officers in Kirkcaldy, Fife, on 3 May.

Within 40 seconds of the police stopping him near his home Sheku was on the ground being restrained. He died that afternoon in custody.

Answers

Sheku's family are still demanding answers to the most basic questions surrounding his death.

They are demanding a public enquiry into Police Scotland's handling of the incident.

Family members say that police told them several conflicting stories about his arrest and how he died.

They believe that officers withheld evidence from both the family and the Police Investigations and Review Commissioner (PIRC).

They say statements made after his death sought to



MEMBERS OF Sheku Bayoh's family and their lawyer Aamer Anwar

PICTURE: DUNCAN BROWN

discredit Sheku's character.

The conference heard from other campaigns of people who died in police custody, including Sean Rigg's sister Marcia and Christopher Alder's sister Janet.

Police behaviour in the new case follows a pattern in the earlier cases.

Mike Arnott, from the Scottish TUC general council, and Margaret Woods, from the Glasgow Campaign to Welcome Refugees, also spoke.

Sheku's case will become a key test of the Scottish

National Party (SNP) government's commitment to equality and justice.

So far the SNP has not taken into account that the PIRC's investigation was undermined as police officers were allowed to collude in their stories.

Government statements that a fatal accident enquiry will take place ignore the fact that this will have no enforcement powers.

Go to the **Justice For Sheku** Ahmed Tejan Bayoh Facebook page. Email shekubayohrip@gmail.com

■ **Home secretary Theresa May has launched a new inquiry into deaths and serious injury in police custody.**

This inquiry comes a week after Sergeant Paul White, the officer charged with perjury over the death of Sean Rigg in police custody, was finally suspended from duty.

■ **Vigil to mark the fourth anniversary of Mark Duggan's killing, Tue 4 August, 4.30pm to 8pm, Broadwater Farm, London N17. Called by Justice For Mark Duggan campaign.**

RAIL

Tube bosses threaten to dock pay for taking action

LONDON Underground bosses last week threatened to dock workers' pay for taking part in industrial action.

The RMT and Aslef unions have instructed drivers not to operate trains unless they have been "subject to safety checks" in the previous 24 hours.

But bosses sent a letter to drivers, which threatened not to pay workers for their whole shift if they refuse to take a train out.

Management said it would also impose normal shift patterns on the 31 August bank holiday because of RMT members' overtime ban.

The ban is part of an ongoing battle against bosses' plans to change terms and conditions

and attack pay when the Night Tube begins in September.

Bosses want to impose new rosters on the Night Tube, which would force workers into unlimited night and weekend shifts.

All four Tube unions plan to strike for 24 hours on 5 August against these attacks. This would be the second walkout by the RMT, Aslef, TSSA and Unite union members.

There is also a possibility that London bus workers in the Unite union could walk out alongside Tube workers.

Tube workers united walkout in early July saw a total shutdown of the network—it showed workers' power to take on the bosses.

COUNCILS

Suspension ups pressure

BOSSES AT Tory-controlled Bromley council in south east London have suspended Unite union rep Alan Brown.

The details of the allegations against Alan—who works in a day care centre they are planning to close—are unclear.

However Unite said the council is "ratcheting up the pressure on opponents of its privatisation programme".

This follows the removal of facility time from Unite branch secretary Kathy Smith.

Unite members have held four waves of strikes against the council's plans for mass privatisation (see page 17).

Unite regional officer Onay Kasab said, "We will continue to fight to defend services and, just as importantly, we will fight to defend those, such

as Alan Brown and Kathy Smith, who are brave enough to stand up for what is right."

■ Campaigners in Bromley, south London, are organising to defend a man at risk of eviction.

Paul Rooney and his disabled daughter face eviction due to council tax arrears. Supporters say these are due to a mistake with his benefits (see page 17).

Activists mobilised to successfully beat off bailiffs at his home earlier this month.

Paul is awaiting a court date. Supporters are raising money for his defence and plan to rally at the court and defend his home.

● Donate to the campaign: account 50776876, sort code 08-60-01, ref Paul's Fund

LABOUR PARTY LEADERSHIP

Cheers for Jeremy Corbyn in Bristol

LABOUR leadership candidate Jeremy Corbyn spoke to a meeting of over 500 people in Bristol on Thursday of last week.

The Malcolm X Centre in St Pauls soon filled and an overspill room was arranged.

The excited mood brought together young people and older activists.

The People's Assembly stall was inundated with people taking information about the demonstration against the Tory conference in Manchester in October.

Corbyn attacked the politics of austerity. He was cheered when he called for the renationalisation of the post office and when he condemned the war in Iraq.

The biggest applause was for his condemnation of the Labour leadership for not opposing the welfare bill.



The Bristol crowd for Jeremy Corbyn

PICTURE: HUW WILLIAMS

He was less clear on if he would call for a no vote in the coming European referendum. He did not answer a question on how a left government in Greece has ended up looking to impose severe austerity.

A psychiatric nurse from Blackberry Hill Hospital told Socialist Worker, "I'd given up on Labour. I still think

it's full of people who are not on our side but Corbyn has shaken things up. I am delighted he has done so."

This summed up the feelings of many who were there. People who were inspired were also open to discussing whether Labour is the vehicle for change.

Huw Williams

● For more see pages 14&15

PALESTINE SOLIDARITY

Protesters for Palestine move boundaries

PALESTINE solidarity activists won a victory at Birmingham Crown Court last Wednesday against an injunction restricting protests at an arms factory in Shenstone, Staffordshire.

The injunction had prevented protesters from coming within 250 metres of UAV Engines Ltd, which is owned by Israeli arms company Elbit.

But the boundaries were changed to include just the factory gates and premises after activists appealed on Wednesday of last week.

The injunction was granted on 30 June—six days before a day of protests targeting Elbit factories last month.

Some 19 activists were arrested during the protests and have been released on bail. They were set to find out whether or not they will be charged on Friday of this week.



Dabke in the British Museum

West Midlands Palestine Solidarity Campaign plans to hold an all-day protest and stall outside Tamworth police station on Friday to support the arrestees.

■ **PROTESTERS** staged traditional Palestinian "dabke" dances inside the British Museum and a central London branch of Barclays

bank last Saturday.

The protests were designed to coincide with the one-year anniversary of the Israeli assault on Gaza in 2014.

The protesters targeted Barclays because of its links with arms companies Raytheon, Boeing and Lockheed Martin, which sell arms to Israel.

And they chose the British Museum to highlight the historic links between Israel and the British state.

■ **CYCLISTS** WERE set to begin a mass cycle tour from Edinburgh to London this Saturday in solidarity with Gaza.

The Big Ride, organised by cycling tour operator Redspokes, aims to raise money for Palestinian children traumatised during Israel's assault on Gaza last year.

● redspokes.co.uk/thebigride

ALL OUT FOR THE GALLERY

Workers at London's National Gallery have voted for an indefinite strike to stop privatisation plans and defend their PCS union rep, reports Nick Clark

WORKERS AT the National Gallery have voted overwhelmingly to go on an all-out strike.

The members of the PCS union are set to begin their action on 17 August. The vote saw 99 workers back indefinite action with four against and four abstaining.

The decision marks a significant escalation in the battle against privatisation and victimisation.

Gallery workers have been striking since January against bosses' plans to privatise 400 out of 600 jobs.

A 24-hour walkout which was set to go ahead on Wednesday of this week will mark their 53rd strike day.

Strikers are also demanding the reinstatement of union rep Candy Udwin.

Bosses suspended Candy ahead of the workers' first strike in January and sacked her in May.

They accused her of breaching confidentiality for drafting a question for the union regarding the cost of hiring private security firm CIS.

CIS security guards have been brought in to take over services in the gallery's Sainsbury wing.

Interim

A court hearing in June granted Candy "interim relief", which means that the gallery must continue to pay her until a full employment tribunal.

The judge ruled that a full tribunal would likely rule that Candy was acting legitimately as a trade union rep.

She also said that it was unreasonable to accuse Candy of gross misconduct.

Candy's appeal hearing on Wednesday of last week was adjourned as the gallery had not given the union proper notice. It is set to restart early this month.

The vote to go all-out shows that strikers are



SOME 2,000 protesters joined National Gallery workers for a protest in Trafalgar Square on 30 May this year (above). They are fighting to stop privatisation at the gallery and to defend victimised PCS union rep Candy Udwin (left)

PICTURES: GUY SMALLMAN

fighting to win. It should put pressure on incoming gallery director Gabriele Finaldi.

The PCS is contacting Finaldi to ask him to intervene in attempts to bring gallery bosses back to negotiations.

The gallery had not

responded to PCS requests for talks through conciliation service Acas as Socialist Worker went to press.

Strikers plan walkouts from Tuesday to Thursday of next week and again on 12 August.

And they were set to hold an "alternative leaving party" for outgoing director Nicholas Penny on Thursday of this week outside the gallery. Penny plans to have his own leaving do inside.

Strikers have won huge

support—with thousands of pounds donated to the strike fund.

More than 45,000 people have signed a PCS online petition against the privatisation.

And supporters on National Gallery picket lines have come from a range of different trade unions.

They have also been joined by two of the sacked Sotheby's workers, film maker Ken Loach and MPs such as Labour's Jeremy Corbyn and Green Party leader Natalie Bennett.

Overwhelmed

Speaking to supporters ahead of her appeal hearing last week, Candy said, "I've been overwhelmed by the support I've had from the people that I work with."

"I want to thank all the people from outside the gallery who've supported us."

"That's what's kept us going."

She added, "It shows how people can stand together. When people stand up and fight, people want to support that."

Strikers are set to hold a planning meeting for the all-out strike on Thursday evening of next week in central London.

Everyone who supports them should attend to discuss how to help them win.

● Donate to the strike fund. Account number 20169002, sort code 08 60 01. Cheques to PCS Culture Media and Sport Association, c/o PCS North West Region, Jack Jones House, 1 Islington, Liverpool L3 8EG

● Join Nicholas Penny's alternative leaving party, 30 July, 6pm outside the Sainsbury Wing, National Gallery, central London

● For info on how to invite a National Gallery striker to your union meeting, go to ngnotforsale.wordpress.com

● Sign the petition against the privatisation at bit.ly/1kELiGx
Sign the petition to reinstate Candy at bit.ly/1CvsMh3

WALES

Museum staff gear up to strike

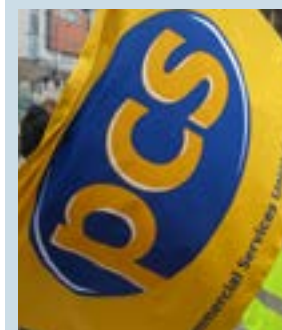
PCS UNION members at the National Museum of Wales were set to strike this Saturday against bosses' plans to scrap premium pay on weekends.

The action is part of a long-running dispute. This saw workers across the museum's seven sites walk out on three weekends in August last year.

The attack would see many already low paid workers lose between £2,000 and £3,000 a year.

That's around 15 percent of their take home pay.

While workers would still get premium pay on bank holidays



PCS union members plan to strike to defend their pay

under the plans, it would no longer go towards their pension.

Bosses have also threatened to dismiss and "re-engage" staff on worse terms and conditions.

But the 80 percent vote to strike on a 56 percent turnout shows that workers are determined to beat this attack.

Union members at Big Pit, the National Coal Mining Museum, were also set to walk out this Sunday.

● Send messages of support to PCS assistant branch secretary Hannah Lawson at hannahflawson@hotmail.com

● Complain to museum director general David Anderson at david.anderson@museumwales.ac.uk

● Donate to the hardship fund using reference PCS national hardship fund, sort code 08 60 01, account number 20146960